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CPCZ DAILY CITES SOVIET ENVOY AT MBFR TALKS

AU131734 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 9 Mar 79 p 7 AU

[CTK Vienna dispatch: "From the Vienna Disarmament Negotiations: Now It Is the West's Turn: USSR Ambassador N. Tarasov Spoke on Behalf of the Warsaw Pact Countries"]

[Text] Vienna, CTK--Two speakers addressed the 196th plenary meeting of the participants in the Vienna negotiations on reducing the strengths of armed forces and arms in central Europe which was held this Thursday [8 March] and chaired by the Netherlands delegate De Vos: Soviet Ambassador Nikolay Tarasov, who spoke on behalf of the Warsaw Pact countries, and Edwin Bolland, ambassador for Great Britain, who spoke on behalf of the NATO states.

At the press conference which took place later the journalists were informed that the head of the Soviet delegation had called to the attention of the participants in the negotiations the speech made by Leonid Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which contains new significant proposals aimed at easing tension and strengthening world peace and security. Tarasov stressed that the political appraisal of the Vienna negotiations in L. Brezhnev's speech on 2 March should induce all participants to seriously reflect on how to approach the solution of the problem of mutually reducing armed forces and arms in central Europe. Ambassador Tarasov stated that the Western delegates are setting the discussion of these pivotal matters aside and replacing it with artifically construed disputes about the methods of calculating the armed forces of the Western and Eastern participants in the talks. In this way they are intentionally striving to avoid coming to an agreement. "An absolutely unnatural situation has ensued in which the representatives of socialist countries are submitting detailed explanations about the numbers of their troops, whereas their Western partners are stubbornly evading an answer about the figures they themselves had announced," the Soviet delegate declared. He, therefore, urged the Western partners either to substantiate the figures they are manipulating and to provide them with proper foundations, or to proceed from the official data provided by both sides, because their course to date cannot lead to anything but further useless delays.

He said these international procrastinations are particularly unjustified today when, due to the proposals of the USSR, the GDR, Poland and the CSSR of 8 June 1978, the positions of both sides have drawn substantially closer on basic questions. The remaining differing stances stem from the endeavors of certain NATO countries to retain a free hand for increasing the numbers of their troops, even above their present strengths, and from the attempts to acquire unilateral advantages that would impair the Warsaw Pact states' security. The socialist countries will not agree to any conditions based on unequal rights. Nevertheless, they are convinced that with a realistic approach by the West it would not be difficult or complicated at all to overcome the remaining differences.

The Soviet delegate criticized the West for stubbornly refusing to accept even the proposal to "freeze" the number of troops on both sides for the period of negotiations, as proposed by the socialist states.

The possibilities for achieving success at the Vienna negotiations still exist, the Soviet delegation's declaration states. The path toward it is indicated by the socialist countries' proposals of 8 June 1978. Now it is the West's turn.

In fact, USSR Ambassador Nikolay Tarasov's speech is a reply to the statement made by Great Britain's Ambassador Bolland, who was again pushing for an asymmetric reduction, insisting on the alleged numerical supremacy of the Warsaw Pact countries' ground forces and advocating the "logical method of discussing the numerical data."

BULGARIAN ENVOY SPEAKS AT UN DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE 13 MARCH

AU140912 Sofia BTA in English 0840 GMT 14 Mar 79 AU

[Text] Geneva, March 14 (BTA)--The sittings of the Disarmament Committee continue, at which the major issues on the agenda and the committee's working programme for this year are being discussed. At yesterday's session Mr Petur Vutov, head of the Bulgarian delegation, took the floor. He dwelled chiefly on the new initiative of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries to start negotiations on stopping the nuclear weapon production of any kind, as well as on the gradual reduction of their stock till their final liquidation.

Bulgaria became co-author of the proposal of the seven socialist countries cherishing the great hope that a new phase in seeking radical solutions to nuclear disarmament has been started, underlined Mr Vutov. That is why the Bulgarian delegation noted with satisfactio[illegible]he positive reaction of many countries such as India, Ethiopia, Cuba, Sweden, Pakistan and Nigeria to this proposal. The Bulgarian representative appealed to the committee's members to consider the realistic and constructive character of the socialist countries' proposal and to start as soon as possible concrete consultations and negotiations. As it is well-known the quantity of nuclear weapons stockpiled in the world in the last decade alone has increased over three times.

The Bulgarian representative reminded that the participation of all nuclear states in the nuclear weapon disarmament negotiations is absolutely necessary and expressed hope that the governments of the USA, Britain and France will regard positively the initiative of the socialist countries.

The head of the Bulgarian delegation denounced the Chinese aggression against Socialist Vietnam, which increased the concern of the entire progressive public over the future of world peace and which proved once again that the Chinese leaders do not think of disarmament but of fanning out a new war. The fact that the place of the Chinese delegation at the Disarmament Committee remains still unoccupied is eloquent enough of the Chinese attitude to the vitally important issue of detente.

GDR COMMENTATOR ASSAILS NATO MEDITERRANEAN MANEUVERS

DW131116 East Berlin Domestic Service in German 1400 GMT 9 Mar 79 DW

[Hermann Burkhardt commentary]

[Text] You have probably heard that farflung NATO military maneuvers have begun in the eastern part of the Mediterranean this week. They are to last for 4 weeks. Participating in these exercises are naval and air forces of the United States, Great Britain, Italy, and Turkey. Listen to a commentary on this subject by Hermann Burkhardt.

The NATO exercises in the Mediterranean region are being held to demonstrate the policy of strength in the crisis region of the Middle East. They are part of the winter exercises of which Mrs Lorenzen, the former assistant to the NATO director of operations spoke. To increase their effectiveness a political scenario has been added in direction of an attack, meaning an attack against the Soviet Union, against the socialist countries.

We need only listen to speeches in the Bonn Bundestag currently being given by CDU/CSU representatives to obtain confirmation of that. Granted, they are talking about defense there, but they clearly mean aggression--naturally aggression against the socialist camp. To quote Mrs Lorenzen as a witness once again, this is the reason why NATO enhanced the role of the so-called atomic phase in the past few years. Today, not a single maneuver is held in which the use of nuclear weapons against the socialist states is not in the planning. To the gentlemen of the CDU/CSU it does not yet seem to be enough that thus the entire northern German lowlands as well as the northern part of the GDR would be destroyed and atomically polluted, even though this would be to the detriment of their own people. In their quest for aggression the West German revanchist politicians will not stop at anything. At the moment they are primarily employing an unrealistic assessment, an exaggeration, of the strength of the socialist camp. This campaign, now being freshened up in the Bundestag, is emanating from NATO headquarters. Secretary General Luns, the man whose temporary Dutch Nazi Party membership touched off fierce debates in the Hague Parliament, intentionally presented false facts.

The Danish bourgeois paper INFORMATION noted in connection with the well-known existing military strength of the socialist camp that his statements have been wildly exaggerated. Even the annual report of the American general chief of staff which is not prudish in assessing the balance of forces, contradicts Luns' analysis of the Soviet Union's medium-range missiles. In doing this he wants to modernize NATO's nuclear forces, writes INFORMATION--which means introducing the neutron bomb which has been rejected by the masses of the world because it is so dangerous.

Another NATO method is its permanent interference in the internal affairs of its member states. No end of the Italian Government crisis is in sight because the United States does not want to permit Communist Party participation. In Greece the Karamanlis government is pressed to give NATO more bases and to return to NATO's military organization, although elections and demonstrations show that the people did not forget NATO's participation in the 1967 military putsch. In the present negotiations on making financial aid available to Turkey, pressure is being exerted on Ankara to make more military bases available along the Soviet border.

The present military maneuvers in the Mediterranean area are supposed to demonstrate that the area close to the oil wells of the Middle East belongs to NATO's sphere of influence. Moreover they are supposed to demonstrate the strength of the military pact to allies who should follow more willingly the plans of imperialist global strategy. Planning shows that this strategy is aimed at a future war.

RABOTNICHESKO DELO COMMENTS ON U.S. MIDDLE EAST MOVES

AU131900 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 10 Mar 79 p 4 AU

[Yoan Mateev article: "United States in the Middle East--Another Incursion"]

[Text] As was logical to expect, U.S. imperialist circles contributed to sharpening the situation in Asia. Overtly utilizing the situation in Southeast Asia, Washington started a multidirectional political offensive in the Middle East, headed by the President himself. One cannot only see behind him the most noted figures of the governing elite but also hear the thunder of heavy guns and airplanes....

During the week the U.S. news reports on Washington's massive invasion of the Middle East literally chased each other. Presidential adviser Brzezinski, Under Secretary of State Atherton, Carter himself, Secretary of State Vance, Secretary of Defense Brown, aides, and over 200 journalists headed from the West toward the Middle East. The aircraft carrier Constellation, accompanied by several other military and auxiliary vessels, headed from the East toward the shores of Iran and Saudi Arabia at full speed. U.S. reconnaissance and relevant personnel were transferred to Saudi Arabian airports.

Washington has several reasons for this versatile invasion. Naturally, Carter's visit is being heralded as an expression of "most noble" ambitions for "bringing peace" to the Middle East. The trip of the Constellation and company is being presented as a "necessary measure" for guaranteeing the security of the oil deliveries to the United States from the gulf area. The airplanes were supposedly transferred to Saudi Arabia in order to follow the conflict between North and South Yemen.

However, regardless of the efforts being made to spread disinformation among the world public and to present all these "visits" as completely independent from each other, and regardless of the efforts being made to justify them with innocent reasons, it is obvious that they belong to a broad and uniform action on the part of U.S. imperialist policy. Actually this is admitted by Western observers and commentators, who point out that despite the fact that the design's details are a subject of guesses, its final goals--strengthening the weakened U.S. influence in this part of the world--are absolutely clear.

Regardless of what the final outcome of the separate haggling between Cairo and Tel Aviv with U.S. participation will be, the personal presence of the U.S. President in the Egyptian capital aims at applying new pressure on the Egyptian leaders and thus pushing them along the road of concessions and collusion with the Israeli aggressor and accelerating the creation of the Egypt-Israel axis as a support for the U.S. attempts in the Middle East. But, as a BBC commentator noted, this is not the only goal of Carter's visit. One of the probable goals of the presidential presence in Cairo is to convince Riyadh that its opposition to the Camp David separate deal is removing it from the center of Middle East events. This indirect pressure, which can clearly be sensed, poses the question: Is not the rude demonstration of weapons in the gulf addressed not only against Iran but also against Saudi Arabia? One also cannot exclude the version that North Yemen was pushed toward opening the border conflict with the PDRY in order to provoke a Saudi Arabian involvement and thus push this country into an internecine conflict and thus to separate it from the other Arab countries--opponents of the separate deal.

Finally, sending the U.S. Navy formation to the gulf is also aimed at checking the reaction of the interested countries and evaluating the possibilities of installing a lasting U.S. presence in Indian Ocean waters.

It is not by chance that it is exactly now that people in Washington are speaking about a "fifth U.S. fleet" which will permanently patrol the waters of the Indian ocean using the Diego Garcia Island as a permanent base. According to the sources, this fleet will give material form to the declaration which stated that the United States is ready to use military force in supporting its goals and interests in this area. Thus the present many-layered action in the Middle East reveals its full scope and appears as a new provocative attempt to continue the policy of imperialist threats and dictates "from a position of strength."

What are the prospects for this multidirectional design? The time in which it is taking place does not promise success. It is in sharp contradiction with the dominant tendency in international life--political detente--which is the only tendency that has historic prospects in the present world balance of power. It is in contradiction with all peoples living within the span of its action; it is aimed against their independence and sovereignty and opposes their strivings for lasting peace. This design does not conform to the most important reality of international relations--the presence of the USSR and the other socialist countries--and it is well known that today nothing can be decided without the participation of, and indeed against the will of, real socialism.

ZHIVKOV INFORMS BCP POLITBURO OF TALKS WITH CEAUSESCU

LD131610 Sofia BTA in English 1445 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Sofia, March 13 (BTA)--The Politburo of the CC of the BCP heard an information given by Mr Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council of Bulgaria, on his talks with the secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party and president of Romania, Mr Nicolae Ceausescu, during Mr Ceausescu's friendly visit to Bulgaria from February 15 to 17, this year. Stated was that important problems of Bulgaro-Romanian cooperation were discussed and views were exchanged on some problems of the international situation.

The top party and state leaders of the two countries emphasized the determination of Bulgaria and Romania, of the BCP and the RCP to proceed expanding bilateral friendly relations in the interest of the two neighbouring nations, of the socialist community countries and the cause of peace and socialism.

Mr Todor Zhivkov and Mr Nicolae Ceausescu underlined the two countries' readiness to make greater efforts for deepening the process of detente, for strengthening security in the Balkans, Europe and the world.

The Politburo of the CC of the BCP assessed highly the results of the traditionally friendly talks between Mr Todor Zhivkov and Mr Nicolae Ceausescu and underlined the special significance of the meetings of the top party and state leaders for the perpetuated strengthening and deepening of friendship and cooperation between the two parties, countries and peoples.

The Politburo of the CC of the BCP assessed the meeting between Mr Todor Zhivkov and Mr Nicolae Ceausescu as an important contribution to the further consolidation of unity of the socialist community countries on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

The Politburo of the CC of the BCP issued orders to the corresponding central departments to outline concrete initiatives for the implementation of the decisions taken by Mr Todor Zhivkov and Mr Nicolae Ceausescu for furthering the all-round Bulgaro-Romanian relations.

ROME PAPER REPORTS DEVELOPMENTS IN CSSR DISSIDENT MOVEMENT

LD131033 Rome IL POPOLO in Italian 7 Mar 79 p 10 LD

[Unattributed report: "Prague: 'Fund' Will Aid Dissidents' Families"]

[Text] Prague--The signatories of Charter 77, the manifesto on civil rights in Czechoslovakia on which organized dissidence is centered, has announced in a statement released in Prague that a fund is about to be set up to help dissidents' families in difficulties. The fund will be administered by three well-known representatives of the movement: former Foreign Minister Jiri Hajek, philosopher Ladislav Hejdanek and playwright Vaclav Havel.

The latter has also forwarded to London a letter sent by him to Czechoslovak Interior Minister Obizana, denouncing the serious constrictions to which he has been subjected since being placed under house arrest. Havel says that for the past few days the authorities have prevented him from going out to buy food and other essential commodities. "House arrest," Havel writes, "is becoming worse and worse.... Until recently I was at least permitted--albeit with difficulties, restrictions and an accompanying police escort--to leave the house to buy essential domestic requirements. Since yesterday (the letter is dated 2 March--IL POPOLO editor's note) I have been prevented even from leaving the apartment to buy something to eat...." In a previous letter Havel stated that the authorities had even built an observation post in front of his country house in the village of Hradecek, in Bohemia. Between three and five agents took turns of duty there. Things have not changed in Prague--indeed, they have deteriorated.

Sources close to Charter 77 have also announced that the case of Father Vojtech Srna, a Catholic priest charged with performing religious rites outside his own parish, has again been entered for trial.

A new typewritten clandestine magazine has also appeared: it is called CTVEREC (SQUARE) and carries articles on foreign policy written by Czechoslovaks and foreigners. The magazine has also published an article by [PCI secretariat member] Giancarlo Pajetta, previously printed by Rinascita last August, on "Socialism and 1968 in Czechoslovakia."

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON CHNOUPEK'S VISIT TO SPAIN

AU130930 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 10 Mar 79 pp 1, 7 AU

[CTK special correspondent's report: "In Harmony With the Helsinki Principles"]

[Text] Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, concluded his 4-day official visit to Spain yesterday. He was seen off at Madrid Airport by his Spanish colleague Marcelino Oreja Aguirre and other prominent Spanish officials; by Fernandez de Cordova, Spain's ambassador to the CSSR and by Zdenek Pisk, CSSR ambassador to Spain. A joint Spanish-Czechoslovak communique was adopted at the conclusion of the talks, in which it is said:

Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, paid an official visit to Spain on 6-9 March 1979 at the invitation of Marcelino Oreja Aguirre, minister of foreign affairs of Spain. In the course of his sojourn in Madrid Minister Chnoupek was received by King Juan Carlos I and by Premier Suarez.

Bohuslav Chnoupek had a working meeting with Minister Oreja, which took place in a friendly and cordial atmosphere and in the spirit of mutual understanding. The two ministers had a fruitful exchange of views on the most serious contemporary problems and on questions of common interest in the sphere of international relations, especially on the development of the situation in Europe and on Spanish-Czechoslovak bilateral relations.

The two ministers confirmed the determination of the CSSR and Spain to observe the aims and principles of the UN Charter and all principles of relations between states as proclaimed in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. They stressed the extraordinary important role of the UN in strengthening peace and security in the world and confirmed their determination to further support its efforts aimed at the development of friendly relations and peaceful cooperation among all states.

The two sides stressed the significance of the process started at the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and assessed the results of the Belgrade meeting, which confirmed the determination of the participating states to insure the continuity of detente. They agreed that decisive efforts must be made to achieve a dynamic and comprehensive implementation of all the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act and expressed in this context their determination to make every effort so that the meeting of representatives of states participating in the CSCE--to be held in Madrid in 1980--contributes to consolidating security and cooperation in Europe by means of military detente, disarmament, cooperation in the economic sphere, in science and technology, environmental protection, in the humanitarian sphere and so forth.

The two sides stressed the significance of efforts aimed at the implementation of the pledge by all states to refrain from the threat or use of force in any form or expression, including the use of nuclear arms, and declared that it is necessary to achieve a further relaxation of tension in the political and military sphere and to expand this process into all parts of the world, so that it encompasses all states irrespective of their political, economic and social systems and regardless of their membership in political-military organizations. The two sides confirmed that they will continue to strive for a general and complete disarmament under effective international control and expressed themselves in favor of a ban on the development and production of new kinds of mass destruction weapons. They expressed their support for the final document of the 10th special UN General Assembly session on disarmament and expressed the conviction that the speedy convention of a duly prepared world conference on disarmament, attended by all states, would be an important step toward the fulfillment of the principles contained in this document. They also expressed themselves in favor of measures aimed at strengthening the security of nonnuclear states.

The two sides also expressed the wish for the Vienna talks on the reduction of the number of armed forces and armament in central Europe to arrive at a mutually acceptable agreement while respecting the principle of not jeopardizing the security of any of the participating parties.

During the talks the ministers exchanged views on some questions concerning the situation in the Mediterranean region and agreed that it is necessary to constructively strive for the consolidation of peace and cooperation in that area.

The CSSR and Spanish foreign ministers agreed that it is urgently necessary to establish a real and just peace in the Middle East on the basis of the UN resolutions, the condition being the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the territories occupied in 1967 and implementation of the Palestinian people's national rights--including their right to self-determination--as well as the rights of all countries in this area to live in peace and security.

The ministers exchanged views on the development of events in Africa and emphasized that the United Nations and OAU principles and resolutions must be respected; they resolutely condemned apartheid and racial discrimination and expressed their support for the just struggle of the nations of southern Africa for liberation from foreign domination and colonialism.

The two sides regard it desirable to continue to strive for the establishment of just international economic relations while taking into consideration the developing countries' right to participate in the global economic progress. The broad development of international economic cooperation on the principles of justice, equality and mutual advantage could contribute to these efforts.

The Spanish and CSSR foreign ministers noted that the relations between their two countries have been developing positively in the past 2 years, and they expressed their determination to continue this mutually advantageous cooperation in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act. In this connection they noted that the contacts and regular consultations between the two foreign ministries at various levels on questions of common interest in the bilateral as well as in the multilateral sphere have also yielded good results. They emphasized the importance of contacts between the two countries' political, economic and cultural representatives and expressed the determination to support and facilitate these contacts.

In view of the real possibilities of the two economies the ministers voiced interest in the further equitable growth of economic relations. They confirmed their determination to contribute to developing them in the common interest through the implementation of new forms of cooperation, particularly in the industrial sphere, in scientific-technical cooperation and in cooperation in third markets.

Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre and CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek signed agreements on cultural cooperation and international road transportation. They expressed interest in further expanding the contractual basis necessary for the good development of bilateral relations by signing agreements in the near future on scientific-technical cooperation and on the prevention of double taxation, to be followed by the elaboration and conclusion of treaties in other spheres.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the positive results of the visit, which will contribute to the development and intensification of relations between Spain and the CSSR to the benefit of both countries and in the interest of detente in Europe.

CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek invited Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre to pay an official visit to the CSSR. The invitation was accepted with thanks. The date of the visit will be established through diplomatic channels.

RUDE PRAVO SEES A 'POSITIVE SHIFT' IN SAUDI ARABIAN POLICY

AU131930 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 9 Mar 79 AU

[Stanislav Stepanek commentary in the column "Notes:" "Voice of Reason"]

[Text] Saudi Arabia is ready to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, acknowledges the USSR's important role in world politics and evaluates positively Soviet policy toward the Arab states. This was reported by the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE with a reference to the Beirut magazine AL-HAWADITH. Al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs of Saudi Arabia, also stated that his country does not share U.S. concern about an expanding Soviet influence in the Persian Gulf.

If we take into consideration some further steps made by Saudi Arabia in the sphere of foreign policy, particularly its stand at the conference of Arab states in Baghdad, we can note a certain positive shift in its foreign policy toward a more realistic evaluation of present international relations.

Saudi Arabia, which is traditionally strongly anticommunist, has been subordinating all its activity to preventing any penetration of progressive ideas. The unchanging policy of socialist countries has proved--in contrast to U.S. maneuvering in the Israel-Egyptian talks and events in Iran--the justification of the demands for a more balanced foreign policy.

Saudi Arabia--as a state in which holy Muslim places are located--cannot ignore the views prevailing in the Arab world. Some realistically thinking politicians in Riyadh have apparently realized that the Soviet Union is not interested--as claimed by U.S. propaganda--in some sort of an export of revolution or in interfering in the internal affairs of other states, but in true stability in this region and in bilaterally advantageous cooperation with all states regardless of their social system. And this is an alternative that is acceptable even for Saudi Arabia.

Many U.S. officials are disenchanted by some statements of Saudi princes. Naturally, there is no radical reversal in the policy of Saudi Arabia but there is a new shade--the shade of a more realistic and rational view on the international situation.

AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES IN BOHEMIA REPORTED

LD131852 Prague CTK in English 1712 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Prague--Austrian Federal President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger, in Czechoslovakia on an official visit at the invitation of President Gustav Husak, laid a wreath today in the National Cemetery at Terezin, North Bohemia, to honour the memory of the martyred anti-fascists.

The president then toured the "little fortress" of the former Nazi concentration camp through which more than 200,000 political prisoners from Czechoslovakia and other European countries passed in World War II. They included more than 15,000 Austrians of whom 6,182 died in the camp.

President Kirchschlaeger visits Nova Role and Karlovy Vary in West Bohemia later today.

Karlovy Vary, West Bohemia--at Nova Role near here President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger was shown the Karlovy Vary porcelain works, exporting its products to 36 countries, among which Austria is one of the largest buyers from capitalist states.

At Karlovy Vary the guests saw the spa with its old and modern colonnades and tasted the mineral springs, especially the most famous one from which over two million litres of water 72 degrees centigrade hot gush every day.

Later the president was guest at a luncheon given by chairman of the West Bohemian regional national committee Adolf Stary. In toasts they pointed out the development of good neighbourly relations between the two countries and the promotion of contacts, especially in the economic and cultural fields. In the afternoon the president and his entourage were returning to Prague.

STROUGAL ADDRESSES FOREIGN TRADE MEETING

LD131812 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1430 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A 2-day working meeting of directors general of foreign trade economic production units and enterprises began in Prague today.

Present at the meeting are CPCZ Central Committee Presidium members Peter Colotka, Antonin Kapek, Josef Kempny, Josef Korcak; candidate member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium Miloslav Hruskovic; secretary of the party Central Committee Josef Haman; ministers and deputy premiers of the Federal Government and the governments of both republics, and other representatives.

An address on the topical questions of the development of the national economy was delivered by Lubomir Strougal, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and federal premier.

BRIEFS

IDEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM OPENED--The joint working group formed by the Institute of Philosphy and Sociology of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and by the Central Institute of Philosophy of the GDR Academy of Sciences for criticism of bourgeois ideology have organized a symposium on the criticism of positivism. The symposium, held on 5-9 March in Marianske Lazne, is a significant contribution to the analysis of one of the most important trends in contemporary bourgeois philosophy. [Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 8 Mar 79 p 2 AU]

AMBASSADOR TO GREECE--Gustav Husak, president of the Republic, has appointed Jaroslav Zantovsky, as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of Czechoslovakia to the Republic of Greece. At the same time he has decided to recall the existing ambassador, Jaroslav Knizka, from that post in connection with him having been entrusted with other duties. [Text] [Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 9 Mar 79 LD]

CARTER'S 'INTENSIVE' MIDEAST MEDIATION BID EXAMINED

LD132332 East Berlin Domestic Service in German 2110 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpt] On his way back to Washington from Israel where he conducted negotiations about a separate Middle East agreement, U.S. President Carter made another stop in Cairo to meet President as-Sadat. More about Carter's visit to the Middle East from our correspondent there, Wieland Weber:

Egypt's President as-Sadat has acdepted the U.S. proposals for a so-called peace treaty between his country and Israel. This was announced at the end of 2 and 1/2 hours of talks with the Eguptian head of state by Carter at Cairo airport. The U.S. President said that all important prerequisites for a peace treaty had now been established. Immediately before, he had informed Israeli Prime Minister Begin by phone about his talk and As-Sadat's agreement. The head of government in Tel Aviv promised to put the new situation to his parliament for its decision as quickly as possible.

At the moment, there is still uncertainty here in the Middle East about what further course the separate talks will take and what steps will be taken for concluding a treaty between Cairo and Tel Aviv. It is certain, however, that the U.S. mediation efforts will continue at an intensive level. For, as progressive forces here declare, the leading imperialist state has a very great interest in maintaining its influence in the oil-rich and strategically important region in the Near East and North Africa.

From the entourage of the U.S. President it was learned that the announcement by the Iranian and Pakistani governments that they were withdrawing from CENTO had had the effect of a cold shower on the U.S. Middle East travelers. This central pact, which was created with Washington's active assistance over 20 years ago, was to form the link between the imperialist power blocs of NATO and SEATO. The total collapse of this pact following Tehran's and Islamabad's decisions and the changes in Iran and other countries on the fringes of the Middle Eastern region are causing extraordinary disquiet in Washington.

Thus the U.S. threatens, as reaffirmed just now by Vice President Mondale in an interview, possible military engagement in the gulf region where it has already dispatched warships. At the same time, the White House hopes to strengthen its strategic positions with the help of Israel and Egypt. Carter promised Begin adequate oil supplies, increased military and economic aid, and he spoke of the possibility of relations assuming new dimensions. In view of Egypt's isolated position in the Middle East region, the United States hopes for a certain measure of understanding on Tel Aviv's part with regard to the proposed separate treaty, for it still counts on the support of not particularly progressive Arab regimes. However, the progressive forces in the Middle East are not deceived by these maneuvers of U.S. diplomacy.

POLITBURO MEMBER MITTAG RECEIVES FRG ECONOMICS MINISTER

LD131818 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1644 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Berlin--Guenter Mittag, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, received FRG Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Count Otto Lambsdorff in Berlin today. Proceeding from the remark made by Erich Honecker, the general secretary of the SED Central Committiee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, at the Leipzig Spring Fair that it was important for GDR-FRG trade to develop for the benefit of both sides, untrammelled by economic controls, they discussed existing possibilities and the conditions required.

It was noted that in important sectors the objective GDR potential for the export of high-trade technical goods to the FRG as well as in other fields is not being fully utilized in trade relations.

Guenter Mittag emphasized that this required the FRG to improve the climate of trade between the GDR and FRG, to remove existing impediments to trade and to approach the development of long-term trade relations constructively. He affirmed the GDR's readiness to develop economic and scientific-technological cooperation between the GDR and FRG on the basis of the basic treaty. The GDR's steadily growing economic capacity provides favorable conditions. This would be in harmony with the consolidation of detente and of peace.

FRG Federal Minister of Economic Affairs Count Otto Lambsdorff expressed the FRG's interest in the development of FRG-GDR trade. He emphasized that the FRG Government attaches importance to normal long-term relations and is equally committed to the process of further normalizing relations between both states.

The conversation was attended, on the GDR side, by Gerhard Beil, member of the Council of Ministers and state secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Trade, and Dr Michael Kohl, deputy minister of foreign affairs. Count Otto Lambsdorff was accompanied by Dieter von Wuerzen, state secretary in the FRG Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs, and Guenter Gaus, the head of the FRG's permanent mission in the GDR.

Earlier Soelle-Lambsdorff Meeting

LD122040 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1900 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Leipzig--Horst Soelle, GDR minister of foreign trade, today received Count Otto Lambsdorff, FRG federal minister of economic affairs, who is visiting the spring fair. They discussed questions of common interest regarding the development and promotion of trade and economic relations between the GDR and the FRG. Present on the FRG side were State Secretary Dieter von Wuerzen and Guenter Gaus, head of the FRG's permament mission in the GDR, and, from the GDR Foreign Trade Ministry, Department Head Karl Keilholz and Trade Counselor Heinz Stahl.

FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER MEETS NORWEGIAN COUNTERPART IN BERLIN

AU130831 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 9 Mar 79 p 2 AU

[ADN Berlin dispatch: "Friendly Meeting With Norwegian Foreign Minister"]

[Text] On 8 March Oskar Fischer, GDR minister of foreign affairs, had a friendly meeting with Knut Frydenlund, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Norway, who stopped over at Berlin Schoenefeld.

The two ministers voiced their satisfaction with the development of the relations between the GDR and Norway, attaching particular attention to the political exchange of views. The two parties will further expand bilateral relations with further steps in all fields of interstate cooperation. Oskar Fischer and Knut Frydenlund took advantage of the opportunity for a brief exchange of views on topical international questions.

Erik Dons, Norwegian ambassador to the GDR also attended the talks, which were conducted in an openminded atmosphere.

HAGER HOSTS RECEPTION FOR VIETNAMESE PARTY DELEGATES

LD122240 East Berlin Domestic Service in German 2100 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kurt Hager, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, has affirmed the GDR's solidarity with the fraternal people of Vietnam. At a reception in Berlin for a delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam, he strongly condemned China's continuing aggression.

GDR ORGANS ARREST BORDER TRESPASSER

AU081217 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 7 Mar 79 p 2 AU

[ADN dispatch from Berlin: "Border Trespasser Detained"]

[Text] On 5 March 1979 FRG citizen Ernst Stehr violated the state border of the GDR in the area of Hirschberg, Schleiz Kreis. The border violator was detained and taken to the appropriate GDR organs for examination of the details of the border violation.

COURT SENTENCES FRG CITIZEN FOR ABUSE OF TRANSIT AGREEMENT

AU091430 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 8 Mar 79 p 2 AU

[ADN Berlin dispatch: "Agent of the Criminal Mierendorf Gang Convicted"]

[Text] On 7 March 1979 the Magdeburg Bezirk court sentenced to 8 years of imprisonment Hamburg (FRG) resident Klaus Dieter Harms, an agent of the secret service-controlled Mierendorf gang, for crimes, organized by gangs, under Section 105 of the penal code and for abusing the transit agreement.

It was learned at the main hearing that Harms let himself be recruited for crimes by the gang of secret service agent Kay Mierendorf and that he received his instructions from Mierendorf's accomplices at the gang's meeting places, the Hamburg Istanbul and Club 88 restaurants. He abused the transit routes for a so-called test run and on that occasion reconnoitered the control system at the GDR border crossing points. Motivated by the desire to make money by criminal means, agent Harms unscrupulously participated as escort-driver in the preparation and implementation of subversive acts against the GDR.

The Audi-100 GL-type automobile with official license plate No HH-548, prepared and used for the crime and transit abuse, was impounded.

FRG COUPLE REQUESTS ASYLUM IN GDR

LD111955 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1800 GMT 11 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Berlin--Wolfgang and Inge Goliath, a couple from the FRG, requested political asylum in the GDR on 10 March. The request is now being examined by the appropriate GDR authorities. Frau Goliath has identified herself as a personal assistant of Dr Werner Marx, member of the executive of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the FRG Bundestag.

POLITBURO MEMBER HAGER SPEAKS AT CULTURAL WORKERS MEETING

LD131752 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1540 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Berlin--A meeting of artists and cultural workers took place in Berlin on Monday [12 March]. Kurt Hager, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, briefed the meeting on current international topics in preparation for the GDR's 30th anniversary and commented on the implementation of the cultural policy decided on by the Ninth SED Congress.

The participants affirmed their profound solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people against China's criminal aggression. It was pointed out that, in the present international situation, the aggressive machinations of imperialism must be exposed and the contribution of art and culture to the development of the GDR's advanced socialist society and the strengthening of the community of socialist states enhanced.

SED CENTRAL COMMITTEE SENDS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MESSAGE

LD081126 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0306 GMT 8 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Berlin--The SED Central Committee has conveyed cordial greetings and congratulations to the women and girls of the GDR on today's International Women's Day. The message of greetings signed by the general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, Erich Honecker, says in part: "The eighth of March 1979 is for all women and girls primarily marked by the passionate protests of the whole GDR people against the aggressive military attack by the Beijing leaders against the Vietnamese people. They see in it a perfidious crime against peace and international law, against the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam fraternally linked with us. Together with all peace-loving forces of the world we demand the immediate unconditional ending of all warlike actions and the immediate withdrawal of the Chinese troops. We join in the call: Hands off Vietnam."

The message of greetings continues: "In the 30 years of the GDR's existence socialism has fundamentally changed the social position and with it the life of women in our country. Socialism has liberated women. In equal rights, educated and self-aware they participate with ideas, expertise and readiness for the further shaping of the developed socialist society."

The message of greetings from the SED Central Committee notes: "In full accord between family and society the children of our people are growing up into healthy people, full of the job of living, competent, educated and aware, and who will build communist society. In 1979, which was declared as the Year of the Child by the United Nations, we can note with satisfaction: The rights of the child have been for 30 years in the GDR a constitutional right and a living reality."

"The eighth of March, International Women's Day, has been and always is an occasion for our country's women and girls," the address continues, "to express together with the women in the socialist countries their active solidarity with all the women of our globe fighting for peace and national independence, for equal rights and progress."

BUDAPEST TV COMMENTS ON CARTER'S MIDEAST TRIP

LD132225 Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The diplomatic house of cards has collapsed; it is not I who says this, but one of the most esteemed leading program commentators of CBS, the largest U.S. television network, who added: The presence and pressure of the U.S. President were not sufficient for a settlement. These comments were made last night on U.S. television, when today's developments could not have been known. The U.S. President was accompanied by 200 journalists in the hope that they might be present at the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli separate peace treaty. Instead of this, in fact, they were witness to nothing more than the unexpectedly serious failure of Carter's foreign policy. Although the President did everything: He promised money, horses, weapons; he exerted pressure; according to some he threatened; he brought to bear the United State's and his own personal prestige, but, evidently, Israel did not give in.

The U.S. President had no previous knowledge of the fact that Begin had convened the Knesset, that is the parliament session so that the U.S. proposals could be debated before he made any agreement. At this session Carter also spoke to persuade the Israeli leadership to accept his proposals, but all indications are that this bore no fruit. U.S. commentators are putting the question: Does Israel want the agreement in any case? Circles close to the White House report that U.S. Government officials are terribly disappointed, embittered, and are full of wrath against the Israeli Government.

What makes it possible for Israel to dare to treat the United States defiantly and what could be its aim in doing this? Let us begin with the second question. In my opinion its objective is to force a kind of separate peace on Egypt that would be definitively and definitely unacceptable to all the other Arab countries. With this, Israel would in fact be insuring for itself that Egypt would once and for all be separated from the Arab world, and that Israel would then face a weakened Egypt. This would in no way be good for the United States, because it wants to maintain or draw under its influence both Israel and the Arab countries. Why can Israel play this game? Because it has deduced that, no matter how great U.S. power may be, it could not permit itself not to support Israel. Neither the U.S. domestic situation nor the foreign situation following the loss of Iran makes it possible for Washington to oppose Israel. The United States absolutely needs as many Middle East allies as possible, and for this reason it cannot use its existing enormous power for bringing these under its discipline.

Carter is not responsible for this; quite simply, this is how the world has evolved. At most he will appear guilty in the eyes of his own electors and legislators only inasmuch as he has been engaging personally in a manner that is not very worthy of a U.S. President for almost 1 and 1/2 years, and now especially, in such a compromising, uncomfortable affair, that is with every certainty condemned to [word indistinct] failure.

PRC ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWAL FROM VIETNAM 'A TRICK'

LD131904 Budapest MTI in English 1723 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

["Chinese 'Pullout'"--MTI headline]

[Text] Budapest, March 13 (MTI)--MTI reports from Beijing: Eight days ago the Chinese Government announced to withdraw its troops from Vietnam's territory. The more than one week passed the announcement was made has proved the Beijing is not keeping its promise and that its assertion to withdraw from Vietnam is nothing but a trick designed to mislead the world's public. Foreign military sources say that only a negligible number of the 150-200,000 Chinese soldiers has actually been pulled out of Vietnam. 11 Chinese army corps, that is about 33 divisions and several armoured regiments and artillery continue their presence in Vietnam. Simultaneously with announcement of the alleged pullout the Chinese airforce divisions stationed near the common border received reinforcement. Information here is that the Chinese are removing the boundary marks to deprive Vietnam of several acres of land. In the biggest of hurry they are throwing up fortifications on Vietnamese territory which they are now calling China's land. They claim to be doing so to ensure the "undisturbed withdrawal" of their troops, while they are destroying Vietnamese villages, economic and cultural facilities with long-range guns and rocket-throwers.

MTI REPORTS ARRIVAL OF WARSAW PACT'S MARSHAL KULIKOV

LD121858 Budapest MTI in English 1706 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Budapest, March 12 (MTI)--Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, commander-in-chief of the United Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty member states, arrived for a friendly visit in Budapest on Monday at the invitation of Army General Lajos Czinege, defence minister. The guest was met at Ferihegy Airport by Lajos Czinege as well as members of the Defence Ministry's Military Council. Present was V.J. Pavlov, Soviet ambassador to Hungary, Colonel General J.A. Naumenko, representative in Hungary of the commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Treaty United Forces, as well as Colonel General F.F. Krivda, commander of the Soviet Southern Army Group stationed temporarily in Hungary.

TURKISH TRADE UNION DELEGATION DEPARTS

LD121940 Budapest MTI in English 1734 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Budapest, March 12 (MTI)--The delegation of the Turkish Progressive Trade Unions Federation (DISK), which had paid an official, friendly visit to Hungary under General Secretary Fehmi Isiklar's leadership at the invitation of the Hungarian National Trade Union Council, left Budapest.

SECRETARY HAVASI VISITS SOMOGY COUNTY

LD131638 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Summary] "Ferenc Havasi has visited Somogy County. The secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee was briefed in Kaposvar in the seat of the county party committee on how the population of Somogy County is fulfilling the current 5-year plan." He is to visit agricultural and industrial plants in the afternoon.

WARSAW RADIO ASSESSES CARTER'S MIDEAST TRIP

LD132138 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2030 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] U.S. President Jimmy Carter has ended his visit to the Near East and left for Washington this evening by air. On his return journey from Israel President Carter stopped over in Cairo where he conferred for 2 and 1/2 hours with President as-Sadat. It is well known that his journey was intended to advance the issue of a conclusion of a separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. But it would appear that the U.S. President's mission has not produced the desired results.

GIEREK VISITS USSR, TALKS WITH BREZHNEV

For reportage on the visit by First Secretary of the PZPR Central Committee E. Gierek to the USSR and his talks with General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committe L.I. Brezhnev, see the East Europe section of the 14 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO POPE'S UPCOMING VISIT

Statement by Religious Affairs Official

LD132338 Warsaw in English to Europe 2230 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Statement by Aleksander Merker, deputy director of the Office for Religious Affairs--read by announcer]

[Text] The announcement of the pope's visit to Poland has aroused understandable interest, both among Polish and international public opinion. The Polish nation will greet in the person of John Paul II not only the head of the Roman Catholic Church but also the head of the Vatican State. I would like to recall here that on the eve of the installment of the new pope on October 21, 1978, the head of the Office for Religious Affairs, Minister Kazimierz Kakol, stated that if the pope comes to Poland he can be certain to be welcomed cordially both by the state authorities as well as the people.

The pope's journey to his homeland will be a religious visit. We expect his visit to serve the cause of peace in the world, strengthening cooperation and friendship among nations as well as the unity of all Poles and broader cooperation between the church and socialist state. These expectations were voiced in the name of the highest state authorities by the president of the Polish Council of State, Prof Henryk Jablonski, in his statement concerning this vital event in the development of relations between the Polish People's Republic and the Apostolic See.

This year falls the 40th anniversary of the outbreak of World War II and the 35th anniversary of People's Poland. The thoughts of all Poles turn on this occasion to the times when the entire nation struggled against the Nazi invader. In this struggle which was aimed also at rescuing Polish culture, Karol Wojtyla, the present pope, took part as a cofounder of and actor in the underground Theater of the Word in Krakow.

Concluding, I would like to add that we have read with attention the reports of the foreign press concerning this visit. We are satisfied especially with those opinions that stress the importance of the pope's visit for strengthening good-neighborly relations among nations in the spirit of (?peace and) [word indistinct]. We should also recall that it was in Poland, in the city of Wroclaw, that the first monument in the world honoring John XXIII was erected, the pope of peace and author of the Pacem in Terris encyclical.

Review of World Press Reaction

LD132142 Warsaw PAP in English 2114 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Warsaw, 13 Mar, PAP--The announced visit by John Paul II to Poland arouses great interest in the world. World's news agencies, radio and television informed extensively about the letter sent by the pope to Polish president of the Council of State, Henryk Jablonski. Recalling that the pope's letter was an answer to the president's words of satisfaction, the agencies quote first of all those parts of the pope's letter in which he expressed his wish to contribute to the process of strengthening the internal (?unity) of Poles and stressed that the ideas of peace, coexistence and cooperation are specially close to him. The visit is to serve deepening of the Poles' awareness of the position which the Polish nation occupies (?in the world's) community.

Mass media all over the world follow with great interest all voices and opinions on the visit. World's press agencies and numerous Italian, American, West German, French and even Japanese and Brazilian dailies comment on articles published in connection with the forthcoming visit in Polish TRYBUNA LUDU daily and POLITYKA weekly. World press and radio and TV stations quote those parts of the articles which indicate that cooperation between believers and nonbelievers as well as the cooperation between the church and the socialist state do not and cannot concern the ideological and world-outlook sphere. Much attention is also paid to freedom of the church in Poland and the church's possibilities and property here. Thus, the dailies point out that there are (?thousands) of catechetic centres in Poland, where children and young people can learn religion, that religious press comes out and religious publishing institutions bring out [words indistinct] new titles annually in a total edition of several million copies, that there are three religious universities in Poland, various religious groupings, that, starting from 1970 new churches [are being built], and that the state holds high the role played by the church in such spheres as moral education, strengthening of family bonds, or shaping proper attitude to work and a sense of responsibility for the country's development.

The well-known Italian weekly IL MONDO [words indistinct] a special article devoted to the situation of the church in Poland. The paper is convinced that the Polish Church has full room for development [word indistinct] noted that the reconstruction and renovation of Polish sacral art was possible thanks to assistance lent by the state.

BABIUCH ATTENDS INAUGURATION OF VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT

LD132104 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpts] The inauguration of Luis Herrera Campins, the new president of Venezuala, was held in Caracas yesterday. The ceremony was attended by a special Polish mission led by Edward Babiuch, deputy chairman of the State Council. Edward Babiuch conveyed to the new president sincere congratulations and best wishes. He told the president about Poland's striving to develop further many-sided relations of cooperation with Venezuela.

CHIEF OF STAFF TALKS WITH NIGERIAN HEAD OF STATE

LD141050 Warsaw PAP in English 0900 GMT 14 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Warsaw, 14 March, PAP--On March 12, Chief of Staff of the Polish Army and Vice Minister of National Defence Gen. Florian Siwicki went on a return visit to Nigeria at the invitation of Chief of Staff of the Nigerian Army Gen. T. Y. Danjuma.

On March 13, Gen. Florian Siwicki was received by head of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo. Gen. Siwicki delivered a message from President of the Polish Council of State Henryk Jablonski to Gen. Obasanjo. The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere and in the spirit of the successfully developing Polish-Nigerian relations. Chief of Staff of the Nigerian Army Gen. T.Y. Danjuma and Polish Ambassador Witold Jurasz took part in the talks.

PZPR'S FRELEK WRITES ON SOLIDARITY WITH DEVELOPING STATES

LD091412 Warsaw PAP in English 0903 GMT 9 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Warsaw, 9 March, PAP--"Solidarity with the developing countries has remained one of the very important elements of Poland's foreign policy," wrote PUWP CC Secretary Ryszard Frelek in the KONTINENTY monthly.

"Since its very beginning Peoples' Poland has treated her support for national liberation movments of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America as an important principle of its activity in the international arena. In accordance with our ideological assumptions, along with the development of socialism, decolonization is the second factor of contemporary revolutionary process which has spread throughout the world and is changing it.

"Active political support goes hand in hand with economic interest Poland takes in countries of these continents. It is still small, and it calls for the intensification of our activeness in line with the idea of partnership in development propounded by the PUWP CC First Secretary Edward Gierek. In many countries we are already present thanks to trade, shipping and air lines, thousands of Polish specialists working there and thanks to the beginning of tourist traffic to those countries. Poland has also entered into cultural exchange and she is broadening it," went on Frelek.

Characterizing transformations occurring in the developing countries, the PUWP CC secretary says that the period of political decolonization, which is coming to an end, is followed by a more difficult stage of economic decolonization--a stage which is only beginning and is far from an end.

At the same time, however, "we are witnessing the birth of the third stage: development of people's democratic revolution and the embarkment upon the road of socialist orientation, as can be seen in Angola, Mozambique, South Yemen, the Ethiopian revolution and the policy pusued by some other countries. This is a trend which gives rise to the strongest opposition on the part of imperialist forces. Nevertheless, one should expect that they will not manage to hold it back, and that the reason of historical development will deepen it and broaden."

Frelek's article, published in KONTINENTY, marks the 15th anniversary of the magazine specializing in the problematique of the developing countries. "Over this period," went on the PUWP CC secretary, Polish readers were acquainted better with problems reviewed in the monthly. From the very beginning the monthly has been oriented not towards exotics but presentation and understanding of all problems and all-round presentation of these countries." [quotation marks as received]

Among the many items included in the latest, 181st issue of the monthly there are excerpts of prose by writers of developing countries and articles in which KONTINENTY writers give their impressions on the post-war history of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

JAROSZEWICZ VISITS WLOCLAWEK REGION 13 MAR

LD132028 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Piotr Jaroszewicz, chairman of the Council of Ministers, today paid an official visit to Wloclawek region. He acquainted himself with the achievements and current socioeconomic problems of the region. Accompanied by Leon Klonica, minister of agriculture, and voivodship administrators, Piotr Jaroszewicz visited the Hydroprojekt hydrological laboratory where designs for new barriers, locks and weirs are being exhaustively tested. At present work is being done at the laboratory on the design of [word indistinct] in Dwory near Oswiecim, and a weir near Ciechonicek. Piotr Jaroszewicz then went to the site of a new Poludnie settlement where the foundation stone was laid for a new housing settlement. Its construction will be completed in 1985.

The premier also visited the parish of Radziejow Kujawski which has for many years been achieving high yields of grain crops and beets and [words indistinct]. He also took part in a conference of the social and economic aktiv of the town and parish of Radziejow which dealt with preparations for spring fieldwork and current tasks in the continued development of livestock and plant production.

The next stage of the premier's visit was the state farm enterprise in Osieciny which is a leader in the production of highly selected grain seed and dairy cattle rearing. He took part in a session of the workers self-government conference of the enterprise. This afternoon the premier met the Secretariat of the Party Voivodship Committee in Wloclawek.

PAP REPORTS ON PZPR VOIVODSHIP COMMITTEE PLENUMS

AU130808 [Editorial Report AU] Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish on 6 March on pages 1 and 4, carries PAP reports on the 5 March PZPR voivodship committee plenums in Bydgoszcz, Tarnobrzeg and Olsztyn.

The Bydgoszcz plenum, which was chaired by Committee First Secretary Jozef Majchrzak and attended by Central Committee Secretary Jozef Pinkowski, discussed agricultural and food tasks in light of the 15th Central Committee plenum resolutions and noted steady progress in the rational and effective use of land in Bydgoszcz Voivodship. It also noted that food supplies will be greatly improved when the Przyleki meat combine, the Inowroclaw milk dairy and the 36 hectare hothouse near Naklo are put into operation.

The Tarnobrzeg plenum, which was chaired by committee First Secretary Tadeusz Haladaj and attended by Krystyn Dabrowa, head of the Central Committee Organization Department, discussed the further increase in social and professional militancy of party members in their jobs in view of the range and complex character of 1979 tasks and stressed the need to further strengthen the discipline and reliability of performance, to rationally use the skills of cadres and to raise their political and professional knowledge.

The Olsztyn plenum, which was attended by Henryk Lukaszewski, deputy head of the Central Committee Department of Heavy Industry, Transportation and Construction, appraised the progress of the rationalization and inventiveness movement in the voivodship and, while noting the large share of the movement in the voivodship's economic development, stressed that the situation in this regard continues to be unsatisfactory, that too many inventions are being held in abeyance and that plants make little use of feasible inventions and innovations.

SCINTEIA REPORTAGE ON FRENCH PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Ceausescu 8 March Toast

AU122135 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 9 Mar 79 pp 1, 2 AU

[Toast by President Nicolae Ceausescu at the 9 March Bucharest official dinner for French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing]

[Text] Mr President, Mme Giscard d'Estaing, ladies and gentlemen, comrades and friends,

I am very happy to warmly greet you, Mr President, in our country, as well as Mme Giscard d'Estaing and your aides, and, on behalf of the State Council and government, on my own behalf and on behalf of my wife, to wish you a cordial welcome on Romania's soil.

Your visit is an expression of the feelings of friendship and esteem that the Romanian and French people bear for each other and of the good relations of cooperation between our countries, relations that have rich and lengthy historical traditions. Brought together by their common Latin origin and by profound affinities of language and culture, the Romanians and the French have worked more than once in the service of the noble ideals of mankind's freedom, progress and peace.

The Romanian-French relations have been continually developing. During 1970-78 our commercial turnover increased 2.2 times; our economic cooperation expanded, especially in key industrial fields such as electronics, aeronautics, automobile industry and machinebuilding. Our scientific-technical cooperation also developed; our cultural exchanges expanded.

While highlighting with satisfaction this positive evolution, we believe that broad possibilities still exist for expanding our many-sided cooperation. Thus, the talks we began today and the main lines we traced together for giving a concrete shape to an extensive cooperation for the immediate future create special opportunities for a broad cooperation between our countries.

Expanding the Romanian-French relations of cooperation and collaboration in production and in the areas of science, technology, culture, and so forth is fully in keeping with our mutual interests and with the cause of security, peace and detente in Europe and throughout the world.

Mr President, your visit is taking place at a time when various complex events are occurring in international life. Unfortunately, the trend toward international detente and cooperation is encountering rather serious obstacles. We are witnessing conflicts which are seriously threatening peace and detente and the freedom of peoples who want to devote their forces to an independent socioeconomic development.

In view of this, Romania believes that everything possible must be done to insure the continuation of the policy of detente, cooperation and peace. It is evident that we must proceed from the need to secure strict respect for each people's independence, and each nation's right to be master of its fate and to develop according to its wishes, without any foreign interference.

In this spirit Romania is consistently working to develop its relations of friendship and cooperation with all socialist countries; it is strengthening its cooperation and solidarity with developing and nonalined countries and is expanding its relations with developed capitalist countries and with all countries in the world, regardless of social system.

We believe that given the current international conditions, there is no alternative to the policy of peace, detente and cooperation. Any recourse to force or to military solutions can only harm the respective peoples and all mankind, curb progress and inflict enormous damage on mankind's development!

Along this line we are interested--as you and all European countries are--in achieving security and peace on this continent. We believe that everything possible must be done to implement the Helsinki documents. In our view we must expand the economic, scientific-technical and cultural cooperation and contacts among the European peoples. At the same time we must make greater efforts in behalf of the policy of military disengagement, without which there can be no question of security and peace. We hope that our countries, Romania's and France's representatives, will cooperate, as in the past or perhaps even more intensively, to attain these goals and to insure security and peace in Europe and throughout the world.

Like other peoples, Romania is profoundly concerned about the arms race, which is posing great dangers for the policy of peace and which constitutes a heavy burden on all the peoples, as it impedes their socioeconomic development. We believe that efforts must be intensified to halt the arms race and to begin with genuine disarmament, and primarily nuclear disarmament. It is evident that disarmament measures should reflect the need to preserve an adequate balance of forces, which, however, should be achieved by insuring and strengthening the security of all, not be increasing armaments, but by continually reducing them, in a controlled manner. Romania, like France and other countries, is concerned with insuring its defense and independence. However, we believe that by adopting disarmament measures we do not in any way impair our defense capabilities, provided these measures are correspondingly implemented, under a rational and equitable agreement.

Another problem to which Romania devotes special attention--and I know that France does the same--is that of eliminating underdevelopment and establishing a new world economic order. Naturally, Romania, as a socialist and a developing country, and as a member of the group of developing countries, is in a different position than France. However, we appreciate France's initiatives and efforts to establish a dialog and to find solutions in support of the developing countries, solutions which should contribute to the new economic order. However, as you know, little has been achieved along this line. We, therefore, believe that more resolute efforts should be made, and we want to cooperate with France toward this goal so as to obtain more concrete results this year and in 1980 at international meetings and at the UN session. In our opinion, without solving the problem of underdevelopment and without a new world economic order it is difficult to secure economic stability and satisfactory progress for all the states, including the developed ones.

Romania pays special attention to cooperation in the Balkans, to settling certain existing misunderstandings and to finding a peaceful solution in Cyprus.

We are particularly concerned with a general settlement in the Middle East, a settlement containing a solution to the Palestinian problem--including the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Similarly, we actively support the liberation struggle in Rhodesia and Namibia and the peoples in South Africa; we are for the elimination of apartheid in the belief that the rapid eradication of colonial domination is a must for a policy of detente and peace.

Romania is convinced that real possibilities exist for solving the complex international problems in the interests of the policy of independence, detente and peace. Along this line we attach great importance to the United Nations and to other international bodies as well as to greater participation by the small and medium-sized countries and by the nonalined countries in solving the major contemporary problems.

Once again I want to express our desire to expand Romanian-French cooperation, at both a bilateral level and in solving the current international problems.

Mr President, I am convinced that your visit, our talks and the agreements we will conclude will give an ever greater impetus to Romanian-French relations in all areas.

With this conviction I want to raise a toast to:

--The continuous development of the all-round Romanian-French cooperation!
--Peace and cooperation in the world!
--I wish the friendly French people peace and prosperity!
--The health of you all! (applause)

Giscard 8 March Toast

AU122159 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 9 Mar 79 pp 1,3 AU

[Toast by French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing at 8 March official dinner in Bucharest]

[Text] Mr President, Mme Ceausescu, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

I have been a guest of the Romanian state and people for only a few hours.

What I have seen and heard is proof of the image that Romania has of France, and of its feelings for it.

Whether expressed through the enthusiasm of the crowds, or through the words of the statesman, the message is the same. It is a message of faithfulness to the ties between our peoples, of the desire to cooperate, and of hope.

In my turn, what I came to tell you, in the name of France, is first of all that this message stirs it and goes to its heart. And that this faithfulness, this desire and the these hopes, are shared by France.

Like you, we are attached to the accumulated memories from the long friendship between our two peoples. For you these memories are linked to decisive moments in your national history. For us they belong to what is most generous in France's nature.

When, in the first half of the 19th century, eminent figures in Moldavia and Wallachia began to cast their eyes toward France they were not trying to exchange our protectorate for another but to rediscover the sense of their personality and prepare the rebirth of their country.

When they began to study the French language it was not just to be able to speak the language of a country which, like theirs, was an heir to the Latin world, but to be able to speak the language of freedom.

Later, when Romania won its full sovereignty, our countries served together the cause of people's independence. Their armies fought shoulder to shoulder in World War I. Their diplomats united their efforts in their attempt to preserve a balance and peace in Europe.

The friendship between France and Romania always went hand in hand with independence.

The moment circumstances became more favorable, Paris and Bucharest returned naturally to the path of their old friendship. Hesitantly at first, but soon with growing confidence, as we were discovering to what extent this mutual opening was in accordance with our common aspirations and desires.

This desire for opening and cooperation has been the salient trait of our relations for 15 years. Initiated by the 1964 visit to Paris by Mr Maurer--which marked one of the first steps of the policy of detente--our dialog and cooperation have been developing continually. The importance we attach to these relations was demonstrated by my predecessors, General de Gaulle who visited Bucharest, and President Pompidou who received you officially in Paris.

In answering your invitation, Mr President, I am expressing France's desire to further develop its relations with Romania.

These relations have already attained a remarkable level. One proof of this is the frequency of contacts at the ministerial level and the increase in the number of cultural events as well as the ascending evolution of our bilateral exchanges.

As you also stressed, France and Romania are important partners, particularly in economic areas.

Aside from trade exchanges, their cooperation is geared to associating firms of the two countries in an organic cooperation, within which each can contribute its share. We cooperate in diverse branches, such as automobile manufacture, which affect our peoples' daily life. This cooperation is increasingly aimed at key sectors such as aeronautics and data processing, and soon, I hope, nuclear energy, space technology and telecommunications.

This development is significant for the capabilities of Romanian industry. The directions of our cooperation are the directions of the future. I hope that my visit will afford our governments an opportunity to show their determination to engage along these directions.

For France and Romania detente was designed primarily to end the cold war and to eliminate the signs of confrontation. We also wanted to establish a new type of relations among the European countries. While respecting the diversity of their options and their national personality, we wanted them to learn how to overcome mistrust, to respect each other's independence and to open wide the gates of contacts and exchanges, giving free hand to expressions of historic and cultural solidarity between the people all over Europe.

Our task is to further deepen detente so that it will become irreversible.

We shall do so on three conditions:

--That a dialog is established among all the states based on respect for the principles of international relations; a direct, free and frank dialog, without fear, a moderate dialog which should take into account the legitimate interests and aspirations of each state;

--That the solidarity between the states, and also between people, continues to be strengthened through cooperation and increased contacts and exchanges of all kinds;

--And finally, that we remember that detente is general and should encompass all areas of the world, and that peace is threatened as one area becomes an object of rivalry between foreign powers. In this connection we appreciated the restraint shown by the powers interested in continuing the policy of detente toward the events in Southeast Asia.

Since we share the same hopes, we are interested in pooling our efforts together. Romania is pursuing an active and original diplomacy. It has relations of friendship with a large number of states in Europe and outside it. It is present at all the major international debates. This explains the value that I personally attach to examining with you, Mr President, our data and studies, and I hope we will arrive at common conclusions.

I particularly hope we will discuss the foremost problem of disarmament that you have just mentioned. A climate of detente cannot coexist indefinitely with the huge stockpiles of weapons in the world, especially not in Europe. As you know, we recognize each nation's legitimate right to insure its security. However, the magnitude of the arsenals has long exceeded what is justified by this right. We also know that the problem is a complex one, and that it can only be solved through a realistic approach, that is to say, progressively and according to areas.

Precisely in this spirit France has presented various initiatives at the United Nations. I have noted with satisfaction that many of them won Romania's support, which is a cosignatory of two of our proposals. I hope the same will apply to our proposal to organize a conference on disarmament in Europe, to be attended by all signatories of the Helsinki Final Act.

The first stage would be to agree on measures to restore trust; the second stage would be to decide on effective and gradual reductions in conventional armaments. I am convinced that should the Europeans fulfill such a project, a decisive step would be marked toward security for our nations and peace on the continent.

Mr President, France and Romania have opted for development based on different systems of values, to which we are both firmly attached. However, in the past 15 years they have shown that they are capable of overcoming these differences and retying the knots of an old friendship and engaging on a path of active cooperation.

France and Romania have reached the stage of solidarity and can make a major contribution to the cause of detente and peace.

With this conviction, Mr President, I want to raise a glass to you and your nation.

--To Mme Elena Ceausescu, to whom I am happy to pay my respects,
--To the Romanian people who are resolutely building a dignified future on their glorious past,
--To the traditional, profound and ever living friendship between the French and Romanian peoples. (applause)

Cooperation Protocols Signing Ceremony

AU122306 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 11 Mar 79 p 2 AU

[Text] Protocols were signed on Saturday 10 March at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation on cooperation in the following areas: Automobile industry; electronics and data processing; aeronautics; audio-visual equipment, and economic cooperation.

The documents were signed for Romania by Cornel Burtica, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation and for France by Jean-Francois Deniau, minister of foreign trade.

Ceausescu, Giscard Press Conference Statements

AU122237 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 11 Mar 79 AU

[Introductory statements by Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Valery Giscard d'Estaing at 10 March press conference in Bucharest]

[Text] President Nicolae Ceausescu and President Valery Giscard d'Estaing met with Romanian and French journalists and with representatives of the international press who had come to Bucharest on the occasion of the visit to Romania by the French head of state. At the beginning of the meeting, Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Valery Giscard d'Estaing made short statements on the results of the summit Romanian-French dialog. The French head of state said:

Ladies and gentlemen of the press, we came to Romania at the invitation of President Nicolae Ceausescu. Together we had detailed talks on French-Romanian relations and on major contemporary issues. The results of these talks are recorded in a declaration that we signed, the third of this kind. The first was signed by President Ceausescu and General de Gaulle in 1968, the second was signed in Paris in 1970 by President Ceausescu and President Pompidou, and the third was just signed by President Ceausescu and myself. Each of these three declarations established guidelines for developing the political, economic and cultural cooperation between Romania and France. Since the text of this declaration will be published, I will only stress the main points.

The first point confirms our desire to promote the bilateral cooperation between Romania and France, and it confirms the political will asserted at meetings at the highest level. Thus, after my visit with President Nicolae Ceausescu in Romania it has been decided that President Ceausescu in his turn will come to France in the near future, with a view to maintaining the momentum of these summit meetings.

The second point is the importance that each side attaches to the policy of detente and to the framework of political relations in Europe--a policy that was outlined in the Helsinki final act, and whose essential principles in political, economic and humanitarian areas were mentioned in our declaration.

The third point is our joint determination to work for disarmament in Europe--a complex problem, taking into consideration the number of states that it affects and the various technical aspects of the present stockpiling of armaments. We agreed--and it was recorded in the declaration--on the framework in which this problem should be studied, namely a disarmament conference attended by all signatories of the Helsinki Final Act. We also dealt with international political rules, both in our declaration and in the communique, which focused primarily on African and Middle Eastern problems. Thus, we recalled the international principles of tackling tension in various parts of the world.

Finally, the last point of our joint declaration deals with the problems of development, with Romania's and France's common desire to find new, original and more substantial solutions to the problems of development; it affirms our desire to cooperate within the framework of various conferences or forums which will deal with development problems in the near future.

These are, in essence, the principles of the political cooperation between Romania and France, as they were sanctioned in our declaration.

This morning the Romanian and French foreign trade ministers signed five documents. One is a general agreement--the framework for developing our exchanges and economic cooperation. This agreement, as you know, is the concrete expression of our decision to double the volume of our 1975 exchanges by 1980. We have both expressed our firm intention to implement this agreement which opens up new areas of cooperation, especially in the fields of electricity and nuclear power, and mining installations. I want to mention in particular exchanges between small and medium-sized Romanian and French firms, whose turnover is planned to total 100 million francs yearly. Finally, the agreement is designed to intensify our cooperation in third countries by combining Romanian and French technologies. Aside from this framework agreement, which opens up new areas of cooperation, four other agreements were signed on sectors with a future; these agreements incorporate specific decisions. The first such sector is electronics and data processing--in which Romania and France already cooperate, which will be developed in the fields of new generations of computers, electronic telephone exchanges and medical electronics. The Romanian side has already announced its firm decision to work with us on programming the computers that will govern the production process at the Oltcit automobile plant. The other key sector in which we will cooperate is the automobile industry. We plan to develop our present cooperation--the level of which you could observe on the streets of Bucharest--and we plan to expand this cooperation to industrial vehicles and diesel engines. Another contract and framework agreement signed concerns the assembly of S-20 cars in Romania (2,000 such cars to begin with), and the manufacture of the R-18 in Romania. As for aeronautics, in which our cooperation is already a tradition, especially in the manufacture of helicopters, we envisage a basic decision on the purchase of 40 "Alouette"-III and on the joint design of a bimotor light helicopter (with two turbines), and on the possibility of jointly building a short-range aircraft.

The fourth key sector is that of television and audiovisual equipment. At our meeting yesterday President Ceausescu informed me that the Romanian authorities and he have decided to adopt the Secam color television system. At the same time, we will cooperate in the area of equipment, programs and new technologies for the development of audiovisual systems. As you see, in the economic area we have marked important steps, and more precisely in fields with a great future. Thus, aside from confirming the development of our political cooperation, this visit has opened up a new and very important stage in the development of the economic cooperation between Romania and France. Finally, the communique records the essence of our talks and all the issues we discussed, especially the major aspects of our cultural, artistic, scientific cooperation, of developing exchanges and of mutual visits by delegations of Romanian and French youth. These are briefly the conclusions of our talks, and I want to express special thanks to President Nicolae Ceausescu for the excellent organization of this visit, for the depth of the talks. At the same time, I want to thank the Romanian people for the reception extended to us.

President Nicolae Ceausescu stated: Ladies and gentlemen of the press, I want to express my full satisfaction with the excellent results of the talks and of President Giscard d'Estaing's visit. [paragraph continues]

Indeed, since the first declaration signed in 1968 and up to the third declaration the Romanian-French relations have substantially developed, concerning both economic exchanges and production sharing in various important areas, such as aeronautics, more precisely helicopters, computers, the automobile industry and other sectors. Similarly, we have been cooperating in the areas of science and culture, thus imparting a new and superior form to the traditional relations between Romania and France.

I can also state that, on the basis of the provisions of the 1968 declaration, our countries have been cooperating closely on the international level. This was facilitated by the fact that Romania and France hold identical stances on various basic problems, such as the need to base interstate relations on full equality of rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs, respect for each people's right to be masters of their destinies, and rejection of any interference in the internal affairs of other states and nations. In fact, together with President Giscard d'Estaing, we signed the Helsinki documents which forcefully assert the determination of the peoples who signed these documents to implement new relations in the world, hence in Europe, too, and the need to build a world of security, a world in which each nation can enjoy equal opportunities to assert itself in all the areas.

Since President Giscard d'Estaing has presented in detail the agreements he signed, I will omit them. Indeed, the five documents worked out and signed this morning by our foreign trade ministers, and the other agreements and contracts signed in the past few days open up good prospects for the cooperation between Romania and France.

We really hope to attain the target we established in 1968, namely that France should rank first in Romania's foreign trade with Western countries. Certain steps have been marked along this line, but there is room for further action. We hope that the agreements signed now will create conditions for attaining this goal. We want to proceed with this, not at the expense of anyone else, but precisely in the desire to demonstrate that countries with different social systems but inspired by mutual respect and by the desire to cooperate on an equal footing can cooperate to their mutual advantage and with good results for both their peoples and for international security and peace. I want to emphasize that we are firmly determined to do everything possible to cooperate at the highest possible level in all the sectors on which we agreed, also concerning color television and the Secam system that we discussed and decided to adopt. I believe that the differences in the economic systems of our countries are not an obstacle in achieving this target. In point of fact, we are already cooperating with good results with French state enterprises and with private firms and enterprises. Hence, we have already accumulated some experience, and on this basis we can state that the conditions exist for implementing everything that we have decided under the documents just signed, including our cooperation with small firms.

As for international issues, we have of course devoted most of our attention to the situation in Europe, although the situation is more complicated in other areas. However, we have done so not only because we live in Europe, but because the most powerful means of destruction are concentrated here. The most powerful armies and the two military blocs, NATO and the Warsaw Pact, are pitted against each other on this continent, and hence, achieving security in Europe and adopting tangible measures of military disengagement and disarmament will have a forceful impact on the entire world, not only on Europe.

We have spoken out for a conference on European disarmament. Naturally, we consider this as only one aspect of the efforts to achieve general disarmament. [paragraph continues]

We believe that the problems of security in Europe should be dealt with taking into consideration both conventional and nuclear weapons, since genuine steps toward disarmament cannot be marked without tackling all the problems of disarmament together, without placing appropriate stress on halting the nuclear arms race and achieving nuclear disarmament. We hope that our viewpoint on these problems will strengthen the Romanian-French cooperation on the disarmament question.

We have also had extensive talks on underdevelopment and on the new world economic order. Romania, itself a developing country belonging to this group of states, is directly interested in finding real solutions and in securing considerably more assistance from the developed countries to the developing countries, and in the establishment of new relations, or in what we term the new world economic order. I can say that we have come to positive agreement on these issues. We have agreed to cooperate, although we proceed from different positions, since France belongs to the developed countries. However, we agreed to cooperate actively and to find solutions advantageous to both the developing and the developed countries, to the entire world economy.

Naturally, we have dealt with the problems existing in the various parts of the world, with the conflicts which constitute a grave threat to mankind's peace. As is emphasized in the declaration and in the communique, we have arrived at common conclusions, namely that everything possible must be done to settle all interstate problems through peaceful negotiations, and that force and military solutions should be rejected in settling interstate problems. We believe that only such an approach will serve the interests of the respective peoples, and the interests of the other peoples and of the cause of detente, cooperation and peace in the world.

I will not now dwell on other questions. I only want to express my conviction that the visit, the declaration and the other documents signed, as well as our talks on a large number of problems, will open up new prospects for cooperation in all the areas, at both bilateral and international level. I want to express thanks to President Giscard d'Estaing for the invitation to visit France, and for our general agreements to intensify contacts at all levels between our countries and peoples. As I said, we have rich traditions along this line; our countries are firm supporters of peace, cooperation and friendship, and an intensified cooperation, exchanges and contacts between our countries will serve not only the interests of our two peoples and nations, but also those of peace in Europe and throughout the world.

The two heads of state then answered questions by the journalists.

Press Conference Questions, Answers

AU122219 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 11 Mar 79 p 3 AU

[Joint press conference held in Bucharest on 10 March by President Nicolae Ceausescu and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing]

[Text] Question (Gian Marco Venier--ANSA correspondent in Bucharest): Mr President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, you have stated that disarmament is a complex problem that should be dealt with realistically. Specific disarmament proposals have been advanced officially by both France and Romania. Among these proposals there is one on establishing a demilitarized buffer zone between the two opposed military blocs. What do you think are the possibilities of implementing such a measure of conventional disarmament? In the face of a positive development of the situation in Europe, would France change its current attitude concerning nuclear disarmament?

President Valery Giscard d'Estaing: It is not possible to get into details on the very complex ways and means of what may constitute disarmament measures in Europe. The object of our talks with President Nicolae Ceausescu was basically to outline the framework in which these problems can be studied, and we agree that this framework should be that of the countries which signed the Helsinki agreement. Last night we had very thorough discussions on the numerous problems that exist, which we cannot sum up in a few words. I will only state that we agree on the adoption of what we call trust measures, i.e., measures designed to alleviate the fears of various European countries, and in connection with these trust measures we would examine the proposals made along this line by President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Question (Gian Marco Venier): Mr President Ceausescu, your proposals on detente in Europe include one on turning the Balkans into a demilitarized area of peace. This would, in fact, constitute the first nucleus of nations to break away from the positions inherent in their belonging to different military alliances. Several of the Balkan countries are also Mediterranean countries. The establishment of a peace zone in the Balkans would implicitly have to lead to the establishment of a similar zone in the Mediterranean. Was this link between Balkan and Mediterranean policies touched upon at the present talks with President Giscard d'Estaing?

President Nicolae Ceausescu: Indeed, the Romanian proposals on enhancing trust and on disarmament encompass ideas on strengthening cooperation and security in the Balkans. There is no doubt that any steps toward developing any kind of cooperation and enhancing trust serve not only the peoples in that respective area, but the peoples in neighboring areas--I am referring to the Mediterranean area and to all of Europe. Hence, we are interested in seeing the cooperation between the Balkan countries develop--of course in appropriate forms and taking into consideration the alliances to which they currently belong--not only to preclude the emergence of clashes and conflicts, but particularly to achieve the broadest possible cooperation.

The problem of military blocs cannot be solved by the Balkan countries, but only by the two blocs, by simultaneously dismantling them.

Question (Maurice Delarue, LE MONDE): You have spoken on the situation in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, but you have not mentioned Asia. Does that mean that you have not discussed the situation in Asia? On the other hand, does the Romanian stance on nuclear disarmament agree with France's proposal on convening a conference on conventional arms in Europe? The question is addressed to both presidents.

President Valery Giscard d'Estaing: To the first question I can answer that we have discussed the general situation in the world, and naturally that in Southeast Asia, too. Since the situation there has been recently discussed by international bodies, in particular the Security Council, we have discussed the positions adopted at the Security Council.

I also referred to this issue in my speech on the first evening of the visit, and you have noted my reference to the restraint shown by certain powers who support the policy of detente and who are affected by the consequences of this conflict.

To the second part of the question: I repeat, we have exchanged detailed views on disarmament problems. Naturally, it is not the object of talks between Romanian and French leaders to deal with problems which concern 35 countries.

The issue of nuclear security--which is considered as exclusively the problem of the two superpowers, in the form of an agreement that has not yet been signed--is, of course, an integral part of European security. It is, therefore, difficult to specify the nature of the linkage that should be established between nuclear security and conventional disarmament. We have noted the Romanian position in this respect. [paragraph continues]

The French position is expressed in different terms, since, according to our concept, conventional weapons constitute a specific problem, which should make the subject of negotiations and of a specific study. On the other hand, we take into account and understand Romania's concern: In Romania's opinion, it is unrealistic to imagine a reduction in conventional armaments in Europe without dealing simultaneously, and of course following different procedures, with the problem of the level of nuclear weapons in the area.

President Nicolae Ceausescu: During our talks we, of course, referred to the situation in various parts of the world, including Southeast Asia. Romania's position on that is known. We have been and are against any military action, for ceasing all such actions, for the withdrawal of China's troops from Vietnam and for restoring trust and cooperation between the two countries. Generally speaking, we are in favor of the withdrawal of foreign troops from the territory of other states, for ceasing all military actions and any interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

As for disarmament and the linkage between nuclear disarmament and the so-called conventional disarmament, as President Giscard d'Estaing has already pointed out, there are certain differences of view between us, but I think in the end we did come to a certain conclusion, namely that whatever the conditions, the problem of disarmament must be dealt with generally, and that when talking of general disarmament one must take into consideration both nuclear and conventional disarmament. The forms in which such disarmament should be implemented must, of course, be decided accordingly. As far as we are concerned, we cannot agree that nuclear problems concern only the nuclear countries, since, unfortunately, nuclear weapons, should they ever be used--which we hope will never happen--will hit those who do not have such weapons, too, and perhaps first. Hence, when it comes to disarmament, halting the nuclear arms race and the conventional arms race constitute one body.

Question (Stephen Miller--AP correspondent): Mr President Nicolae Ceausescu, to what extent do the Romanian-French talks reflect Romania's foreign and economic policy toward the nonsocialist West?

President Nicolae Ceausescu: As I have just said in my statement, our relations with France and with other countries are based on the fact that a country's social system is the problem of that people and that we must develop our cooperation in the spirit of the principles of equality, noninterference in internal affairs and on mutually advantageous bases. I can tell you that this is the spirit in which we have tackled all questions in our talks. This is the spirit in which we convened on the agreements mentioned here. I believe that differences of social system do not constitute an obstacle in the development of a broad cooperation between Romania and France, as in general between the socialist and capitalist countries. On the contrary, precisely the existence of these differences makes it necessary to develop a close economic cooperation if we want to insure detente and peace.

Giscard 10 March Toast

AU122305 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 11 Mar 79 p 2 AU

[Toast by French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing at 10 March official luncheon at French Embassy in Bucharest]

[Text] Mr President, Mme Ceausescu,

I will not now make a speech, only a short toast of thanks. This is first of all to thank you and the high-ranking Romanian officials for having come to this tiny part of French territory in Bucharest where we are happy to welcome you.

Then, Mr President, this is to thank you for the success of our meeting. We have not only confirmed what had been decided in the past, but have succeeded in giving a new impetus to the cooperation between Romania and France. The principles of this political cooperation have long since been recorded in our declarations.

I also want to thank you for the perfect organization of this visit, for the attention and cordiality that have surrounded us personally and our delegation. It was not only a matter of relations between two states, but also of developing relations between two peoples linked by a traditional friendship. Finally, I want to thank you, Mr President, for your personal role in the success of this visit. Thanks to the decisions we adopted, thanks to the tenor you imparted to our discussions, and thanks to the cordial atmosphere in which we held our discussions, I feel that we have advanced to a very important stage in our bilateral relations.

I want to thank the Romanian people for their good will and for the reception afforded us both in Bucharest and during our trip through your country to Sinaia. Everywhere we have seen the marks of pleasure and of the good will that the Romanians have extended to the French delegation, the marks of friendship and cordiality for the president of France. We have also seen the Romanian women smile at us and gesture in welcome. I do not know how well the interpreter translated the smile of the Romanian women...(stir)

Mr President, I want to thank you once again for having insured a successful visit, and for the importance and appreciation you attached to this visit. Indeed, the relations between France and Romania, between our peoples, must become an element of friendship and peace in Europe and throughout the world.

I want to raise a glass

--To His Excellency, the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania,
--To Mme Ceausescu, who had the kindness to accompany us during our visit,
--To this new impetus given the friendship, affection and cooperation between Romania and France! (applause)

Ceausescu 10 March Toast

AU122302 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 11 Mar 79 p 2 AU

[Text] Mr President, Mme Giscard d'Estaing, ladies and gentlemen, comrades and friends. I want to begin by thanking you, Mr President, for having accepted my invitation and come to Romania.

Indeed, old, traditional relations based on mutual consideration and esteem and on a certain Latin influence exist between Romania and France, between our two peoples. More than once our peoples have sided together in difficult and in easy conditions. As you pointed out in your first toast, our peoples fought together in World War I for independence for preserving their identity. Even in World War II the Romanians and the French fought together against fascism; in the last part of the war our armies fought together within the anti-Hitlerite coalition.

But naturally, what is most important now is not history, but what we should do to develop our cooperation in all areas and to contribute to a policy of security, detente and peace in Europe and throughout the world.

Indeed, your visit, our talks and the agreements we concluded open up new prospects for this cooperation in all areas.

If your visit is ending with such good results, this is undoubtedly due to the fact that our peoples harbor the same ideals of peace, justice and happiness, to the fact that they are firmly attached to the principles of respect for each nation's right to independence and sovereignty. You have unquestionably played a very important role in finalizing our agreements. This is why I would like to express our complete satisfaction with the remarkable success of your visit and with the agreements we concluded and to express my conviction that all the subjects of our agreements, at both bilateral level and concerning the expanding of our international cooperation, will be implemented.

Once again I want to express my thanks for the invitation to visit France. We are convinced that intensifying the contacts between our countries--at summit and other levels--is fully in keeping with the interests of our two peoples and of the cause of peace in the world.

Naturally, the feelings you have discerned in the Romanian people during your visit express their desire to continuously develop their traditional friendship with the French people. The smile of the Romanian women was for both this traditional friendship, and particularly for the president of France.

I am sorry that your visit was so short. We hope, however, that you will return to Romania soon and we hope to meet again in France in the not too distant future.

With the conviction that this visit will mark a new point in the Romanian-French relations, I want to raise my glass to:

--The unshakable friendship between Romania and France,

--The president of France, Giscard d'Estaing, and Mme Giscard d'Estaing, to the other French friends, and to all of you! (applause)

PORTUGAL'S EANES TO VISIT ROMANIA 21-23 MARCH

AU111533 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0500 GMT 11 Mar 79 AU

[Text] At the invitation of President of the Socialist Republic Nicolae Ceausescu and of Comrade Elena Ceausescu, Gen Antonio Ramalho Eanes will pay an official visit to Romania between 21 and 23 March.

1979 PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH U.S. FEED GRAINS COUNCIL

AU101615 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1100 GMT 9 Mar 79 AU

[Text] The 1979 cooperation protocol was signed in Bucharest today between the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry and U.S. Feed Grains Council from the United States. The document envisages measures aimed at deepening the exchange of experience and information to efficiently make use of grains for feeding animals and poultry, in organizing units for raising and fattening animals and in enterprises for combined fodders.

BURTICA HOLDS ECONOMIC TALKS IN KUWAIT, MEETS AMIR

AU140859 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0802 GMT 14 Mar 79 AU

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Mar, AGERPRES--Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, Kuwaiti head of state, received on March 13 Cornel Burtica, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation of Romania. The Amir of Kuwait, Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, was handed over a message of warm, friendly greetings and best wishes of good health and personal happiness from President Nicolae Ceausescu as well as wishes of prosperity and peace to the Kuwaiti people. Thanking for the message, the Kuwaiti head of state conveyed in turn warm, friendly wishes of friendship and good health to President Nicolae Ceausescu as well as wishes of prosperity and welfare to the Romanian people. Reference was made with satisfaction to the positive evolution of the relations of friendship and collaboration between Romania and Kuwait, and the wish was expressed to expand and diversify the Romanian-Kuwaiti links of cooperation.

The same day, the Romanian deputy prime minister had an interview with crown prince and prime minister of Kuwait, Shaykh 'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, when problems of the economic cooperation and aspects of the international situation were approached.

The Romanian minister also had a working interview with 'Abd al-Aziz as-Saggar, president of the chamber of commerce and industry, with Muhammad al-Atiqi, chairman of the Kuwaiti industrialization organism, and with businessmen.

Middle East Reportage

For Middle East reportage on the official visit of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Trade Dr Cornel Burtica to Kuwait and the UAE see the Arabian Peninsula section of the 14 March Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT RECEIVES CEAUSESCU'S ENVOY

AU131526 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1400 GMT 13 Mar 79 AU

[Text] Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins received Gheorghe Radulescu, deputy prime minister, personal envoy of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. On behalf of the Romanian head of state, Gheorghe Radulescu conveyed special friendly greetings and wishes for great success in his responsible mission to the Venezuelan president.

In his turn, President Luis Herrera Campins conveyed to President Nicolae Ceausescu thanks for the message and best wishes for personal health and happiness and for prosperity and peace for the Romanian people.

Recalling with great pleasure the Romanian president's visit to Venezuela and his own visit to our country as a parliament member, the Venezuelan head of state expressed his conviction that Romanian-Venezuelan relations will continuously develop, for the benefit of the two peoples. He also expressed his desire to visit Romania.

On the occasion of his visit to Caracas, the personal envoy of the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania conveyed cordial greetings and best wishes for personal happiness to former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez. Carlos Andres Perez conveyed to President Nicolae Ceausescu warmest thanks for his message and for the importance that he attaches to Romanian-Venezuelan relations along with wishes for happiness and health.

PARTY OFFICIALS CONFER WITH ITALIAN COMMUNIST

AU140905 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0820 GMT 14 Mar 79 AU

[Text] Bucharest, 14 Mar, AGERPRES--On March 13, Dumitru Popescu, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, received Elio Quercioli, member of the Directorate of the Italian Communist Party, now on a visit to Romania at the invitation of the CC of the RCP.

Messages of comradely greetings were exchanged on the occasion between RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu and Luigi Longo and Enrico Berlinguer, president and secretary-general of the ICP, respectively. Information was exchanged on the current activity of the two parties and on aspects of the international situation. The common wish was expressed to further develop and diversify the relations between the RCP and the ICP on multiple planes.

The same day, Elio Quercioli had a talk with Leonte Rautu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, chairman of the Management Board and rector of the Stefan Gheorghiu Academy.

During his Romanian sojourn, the guest lectured on the theses of the Italian Communist Party for the 15th congress, at the Stefan Gheorghiu Academy and at the Bucharest municipal office of the RCP for ideological and political-educative activity.

BELGIAN SOCIALIST PARTY DELEGATION HAS TALKS WITH RCP

AU101451 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0907 GMT 10 Mar 79 AU

[Text] Bucharest, 10 Mar, AGERPRES--During March 5-9 a delegation of the Emil Vandervelde Institute of Belgium, led by Oscar Debunne, director of the institute, secretary for international affairs of the Belgian Socialist Party, visited Romania at the invitation of the Stefan Gheorghiu Academy. At the end of their visit, the head of the Belgian delegation was received by Virgil Cazacu, member of the Executive Political Bureau, secretary of the CC of the RCP. Information was exchanged on the occasion on the current preoccupations of the two parties and on certain aspects of the international situation, and asserted was the common wish to further develop the good relations between the Romanian Communist Party and the Belgian Socialist Party.

During their stay in Romania, the members of the delegation of the Emil Vandervelde Institute had talks with Leonte Rautu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, chairman of the board and rector of the Stefan Gheorghiu Academy. They also discussed with leading cadres of the academy and of other research institutions for political and social sciences. Economic units and social-cultural establishments in the Bucharest and Oluj-Napoca municipalities were visited.

OFFICIALS CONFER WITH VISITING ZANU SECRETARY GENERAL

AU140903 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0812 GMT 14 Mar 79 AU

[Text] Bucharest, 14 Mar, AGERPRES--On March 13, Edgar Tekere, secretary-general of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), now on a visit of friendship to Romania, at the invitation of the CC of the RCP, met Iosif Banc, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP. The meeting was attended by Major-General Constantin Olteanu, alternate member of the CC of the RCP, head of section at the CC of the RCP, as well as Lovemore Mazirisa, permanent representative of ZANU in Bucharest. Problems of common interest were discussed concerning the activity and current preoccupations of the RCP and ZANU, the development of the bilateral relations of friendship, collaboration and militant solidarity.

REPORT ON WORK FOR UPGRADING, UPDATING RAILWAYS

AU031655 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1125 GMT 3 Mar 79 AU

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 3/3/1979 The works on the double-track railway in Arad-Curtici sector connected to the international traffic will soon be finished. These works have a special importance for the increase of the transport capacity of the railways connecting the south-east part of the country with the western border, Bucharest-Brasov-Arad and Bucharest-Craiova-Timisoara-Arad.

Over a fifth of Romania's railway network of heavy traffic is made up of double-track lines. This activity will go on this year too, other sectors of big interest for the national economy being doubled. Double-track lines are invisaged for the sectors: Tecuci-Birlad-Iasi which will increase the traffic in the central area Moldova, Suceava-Vatra Dornei-Beclean and Huedin-Oradea which will improve the direct railway links between the north-west and the north-east of Romania crossing the eastern Carpathians. Thus, a double-track line will be built (Iasi-Suceava-Vatra Dornei-Clujnapoca-Oradea) connected to the international traffic both ways.

Romania's efforts for updating the railways are also illustrated by the electrification of the lines, the railway network being equipped with central and remote control. The Craiova-Caracal sector has been electrified and the Caracal-Bucharest sector will be electrified this year completing the first big east-west railway of Romania, entirely electrified and 70 per cent [words indistinct]-Constanta-Bucharest-Craiova-Timisoara-Arad-Curtici connected both to the railway and maritime international traffic.

The Iasi Regional Railway Department has introduced these days the radiotelephony on the railways within its area of activity.

At the same time, the rolling stock will be increased this year by 209 diesel and electric locomotives, 5,500 high-capacity freight cars (four-axle equivalent) and by 160 passenger cars with all modern conveniences.

SFRY MEDIA CONTINUE REPORTAGE ON CARTER MIDDLE EAST MISSION

Election Pressure on Carter

AU140950 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 9 Mar 79 p 2 AU

[S.R. commentary: "Why Is Carter in a Hurry?"]

[Text] Diplomacy is--or should be--the art of achieving what is possible in interstate relations. However, at times--in the name of diplomacy--the opposite is done! What is necessary is postponed and what is clear is confused.

With all due respect, it must be said that the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations held with the participation and under the sponsorship of the White House are not infrequently functioning in this precise manner. It is perhaps because of this, also, that they have lasted for such a long time.

Apparently not much is left now of the great agreement in principle achieved at Camp David last year, the agreement which was solemnly celebrated as a true and nearly historical triumph for As-Sadat, Begin and Carter (especially for the latter). Nearly everything continues to be uncertain. Also, judging by all available evidence, the Israeli opposition continues to be decisive because the government headed by Menahem Begin is not prepared to accept essential conditions: the withdrawal from occupied Arab territories, recognition of the Palestinians' right to the land which was taken from them by force and recognition of their right to a sovereign community, that is, something which cannot be denied to any people.

If our impression is accurate, it is precisely around this that the aforementioned antidiplomacy was initiated. The negotiations, which none of the sides involved can or dares break off, are used to avoid "the details" which were left unsolved last September but which were and continue to be more important than the nonbinding whole of "the framework" of the projected treaty. This whole is subjected to very different and even completely opposite interpretations.

The fact that the disputed "details" concern the very essence of the future peace treaty--the Israeli withdrawal and the Palestinians' rights--was demonstrated last week by Tel Aviv's reaction to reports that the Carter administration was ready to accept certain Egyptian interpretations of the proposed treaty obligations concerning the transfer of authority in Gaza; the release of Palestinians from Israeli occupation prisons; the conditions for the exchange of ambassadors between Cairo and Jerusalem (following the complete peace treaty and not immediately after the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai); and the precedence of Egypt's defense obligations toward other Arab countries in relation to the obligations contained in the Israeli-Egyptian treaty.

Begin reciprocated in a provocative manner by saying that Israel would never sign such "a shameful document" because this would not be a peace treaty but rather "a war treaty and for wars it is not the treaties but rather the guns that are needed."

Begin spoke in this manner only a day or two before he met Carter for talks. Another turn then took place. It was announced that the White House had prepared new compromise proposals which the Israelis examined and declared acceptable. This was followed by Carter's unexpected decision--initially appearing to be more forced than prepared--to try his luck as an on-the-spot mediator in Cairo and Jerusalem.

Thus, it is as though everything is beginning once again fr the start. Israel wants peace without withdrawal because, such as it is, it is not p epared to relinquish its position as occupier and accept the Palestinians as equal interlocutors. A majority of Arabs consider that without a change in this position there can be no peace. Egypt cannot or, because of increased worry about losing Arab support, dares not agree to less. In addition, the United States must not give up again. It manages the negotiations and pays the expenses and it is "pushing" the Israelis and "pulling" the Egyptians in the hope that it will eventually tie both of them to itself. Above all, the United States wants to win the battle for time.

For Carter's team, which in the last 2 years has started more than it has achieved, the Middle East is literally a political test which it must not fail: First, because of oil which, following the loss of Iran in the U.S. orbit, once again threatens to become--just as in 1973--not only an energy and an economic question but also an explosive strategic question; second, because of increasingly stronger unrest in other regions which changes or seriously jeopardizes the previous relationship of forces; third, because of the talks on strategic arms (SALT-II) in which, even though no one says this publicly, the general position, the advantage or weakness of the negotiators, that is, of the leading bloc powers in various parts of the world and especially in those places where they directly clash in the struggle for spheres of influence are, to say the least, taken into consideration; and last but not least, because of the U.S. presidential elections next year.

To be sure, the approaching elections might be the main explanation for Carter's sudden trip to pay his personal respects to As-Sadat and Begin. This may be so particularly because his mission to save the tripartite Camp David agreements has a double importance: Carter is also fighting for himself before the elections.

As mentor, political sponsor, military supplier and chief financier, the White House is trying in this way to save the position which, especially after the loss of Iran, it considers as an important if not decisive advantage in its "global" strategy: The reconciliation of Israel with Egypt is being achieved or at least is being conceived as a practical act of pushing the other rival superpower from the immediate area if not also from the wider Middle East region. Israel's concessions, which make the acceptance of the reconciliation easier for Egypt and later perhaps for other Arabs, are the prerequisite for this.

Therefore, Israel's attitude is decisive and, considering the extent of Israel's dependence on U.S. support and deliveries, its attitude can only be influenced by the United States, that is, by the one who, in the final analysis, decides this. And that one is the head of the White House. However, the misfortune is that--although only partially--this dependence is mutual. Even those who know only a little about what makes up U.S. domestic politics and how it is conducted cannot fail to consider the political influence which the so-called Jewish lobby exerts especially on the eve of such an important occasion as the presidential elections. Very few can break through without the support or at least the benevolence of this force, and even fewer can do so against this force.

Jimmy Carter plans to be a candidate in 1980 and to stay in the White House for another 4-year term. For this reason the possibilities for his influence on Israel's policy are limited, among other things, by time: They are diminishing with the approach of the elections. It could also be that Carter, who prior to this move was not sitting in a bed of roses in the United States, considered it necessary because of this to do something spectacular before it was too late. It remains to be seen to what extent he has succeeded in this.

Acceptance of U.S. Proposals

LD132110 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1900 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, March 13, (TANJUG)--Before leaving here, President Carter stated that Prime Minister Begin and his Cabinet, as well as Egyptian President As-Sadat have accepted the latest U.S. proposals for bringing peace process to a close. Carter left Cairo this evening after talks of several hours with As-Sadat.

Carter pointed out that he set forth to As-Sadat and Begin also the U.S. proposals for the solution of several "remaining" controversial questions. It is supposed that, first of all, it is supplying of oil from Sinai to Israel after the signing of the peace treaty and the future "Egyptian presence" in the Gaza belt after the peace process is brought to a close.

It is also supposed that the problems of linking the future of the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza belt and the controversial items four and six of the draft peace treaty, about which Carter did not say anything, have also been solved in a satisfactory manner. In the meantime, news has arrived from Jerusalem saying that after a talk on the telephone with Carter, Prime Minister Begin stated to journalists that his (Carter's) mission in the Middle East was successful, and that he (Begin) will agree also on the latest U.S. proposals for the solution of the remaining controversial questions.

TANJUG: BREZHNEV, GIEREK 'SHARPLY' CONDEMN PRC POLICY

LD131922 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1805 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 13, (TANJUG)--Soviet Communist Party Secretary General [as received] and Polish United Workers' Party First Secretary Edward Gierek, who conducted several-hour talks in the Kremlin today, sharply condemned the policy of China and pressed for the total withdrawal of Chinese troops from the Vietnamese territory. The Soviet Union and Poland also expressed firm resolve to "extend all necessary support to the just cause of the Vietnamese people," reads the official statement on the talks. Within the context of the Southeast Asian situation, Brezhnev and his guest Gierek also discussed Kampuchea. They "welcomed the victory of the revolutionary forces of Kampuchea, led by the United Front for the National Salvation," the official statement underlines.

The inclusion of Kampuchea in the statement on the Brezhnev-Gierek talks, coupled with the assessments that involved here is, above all, a defeat of the Beijing policy, speaks of the endeavours Moscow and allied countries to view the change of the regime in Phnom Penh as a "fait accompli". Also noticeable are a markedly severe condemnation of China and the utterly negative political and ideological assessments of its policy, voiced in sharper tones now than in the last week's Brezhnev-Kadar Moscow talks. Present in both cases, however, is the idea of the "necessity of persistent and consistent struggle for international relaxation."

BORBA REPORTS 'SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS' IN BREZHNEV-KADAR TALKS

AU131335 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 10 Mar 79 p 7 AU

[Text] Budapest, 9 March, TANJUG--Leonid Brezhnev's visit to Budapest, which was first scheduled for last year, has been postponed. In the meantime, Janos Kadar visited Moscow at a time when, as is believed here, primarily the problems of Hungarian-Soviet economic cooperation required a more thorough examination at the highest level.

This conclusion results from an expanded report on the talks which, together with the toasts in Moscow, actually served as an official communique on the meeting between the two highest leaders of the countries.

Janos Kadar returned to Budapest last night after traveling to Moscow alone. Janos Kadar resumed the talks with Brezhnev which he began in the Crimea last year. These talks referred almost entirely to Hungarian-Soviet economic cooperation and its prospects.

The visit of an impressive Hungarian delegation led by Premier Gyorgy Lazar to Moscow last November apparently could not resolve several key questions which Kadar and Brezhnev discussed earlier in the Crimea. Specifically, it is no secret here that what is involved is the extremely important and delicate laying of foundations for economic cooperation for the next 10 years and beyond at a time when the disturbances in the world economic arena have spoiled certain earlier calculations and expectations and which have made the relations among the socialist countries considerably more complex.

Hungary is completely dependent on the Soviet Union regarding the importation of energy and raw materials and it is ready to deliver those products which are in high demand on the world market in larger quantities than envisaged by the usual dynamics of an increase in trade. The meeting in Moscow certainly could have served as an opportunity to comprehensively review all essential aspects of the following questions: Joint investments in sources of raw materials and energy in the Soviet Union and, along with this, the problem of evaluating the investments of the involved countries; the problem of oil and gas deliveries in the future as well as their prices; the problem of an exchange of goods based partly on hard currency exchange, which for Hungary is an extremely important factor in its trade with the USSR and other CEMA countries; and finally, the position and function of the monetary system of the socialist countries which is based on a transferable ruble and which is still insufficiently dynamic or effective and so on.

It is also believed that among the questions which Hungary wanted to discuss precisely at this level was one which refers to a more flexible position of the Hungarian economy toward Western Europe under conditions when the Hungarian economy, carrying out a large reconstruction of its plants, must look for loans and seek more favorable general treatment before certain questions on the CEMA-EEC level are resolved. Coordination in this respect would be very desirable for the Hungarian economy.

The first conclusion which can be drawn from reports published during Kadar's brief visit to Moscow and from the style of the published document is that the highest statesmen have made progress regarding the issues of economic cooperation. What is significant are their efforts to achieve long term and stable cooperation and specialization, as well as the formulation concerning a "complete identity of views," which, at least from the Hungarian side, is not used unless significant progress had been made in the talks.

POLITIKA REVIEWS WORSENING PRC-USSR TIES, LAO SITUATION

AU131710 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 9 Mar 79 p 1 AU

[D. Rancic report]

[Text] Beijing, 8 March--In a report carried on the front pages of daily papers, China today confirmed that its troops are withdrawing at an accelerated pace from Vietnamese territory. [paragraph continues]

Reports arriving at foreign diplomatic centers in Beijing also mention that heavy military equipment is being returned toward the Chinese border, adding that the forward combat line running parallel with Lang Son and Cao Bang is fortified in case of a Vietnamese counterattack.

The prevailing view is that the withdrawal process will be over soon, probably within a few days.

There were no other official reports on the course of the withdrawal operation in Beijing today. There has also been no official Chinese reaction to the Vietnamese accusations that the withdrawal "is proceeding slowly." The Vietnamese statement does not mention the Vietnamese counteroffensive, which earlier was mentioned frequently.

Judging by all indications, the absence of this counteroffensive is a rather important factor concerning Vietnamese deliberations about their possibilities for giving a "real lesson" to the Chinese--if the claim by informed Chinese personalities that Vietnam has no means to wage a war because it has no fuel since the taps on the Chinese oil pipeline have been turned off is 100 percent reliable (we reported this yesterday). Hanoi gives the impression that it has been forced to negotiate.

The reports from Hanoi about differences in the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo regarding the method of settling accounts, that is, whether to launch a counter-offensive or to submit to the proposals offered by the Chinese for negotiations, testify more, it seems, to a Vietnamese lack of readiness or unwillingness to seek a military solution than to a Vietnamese desire, according to the official formulation, "to show its good will for peace and to allow the invading Chinese troops to withdraw."

It Is Too Early for Final Conclusions

If the Chinese claim that Vietnam cannot wage a war because it has no fuel proves to be fully correct, although it is already a rather significant factor in explaining Vietnamese restraint, China could come out of the conflict as an opponent which found "Columbus' egg" in advance. In this case everything that earlier appeared to be a risky poker game could be changed into a skillfully devised game of chess in which a stalemate position is apparent, but in which a checkmate is inevitable. It is still too early--we repeat, if the Chinese claims are true--to foresee the ending.

However, one of the consequences of the conflict, it appears, can already be perceived: According to the information of a very competent Chinese official, the Soviet Union has prompted, as the Chinese see things, a worsening of relations between Moscow and Beijing by breaking off trade talks between the two countries which this time were held discreetly in the Soviet capital.

This Chinese official also said that the nominal talks between the two big neighbors on border questions promulgated after the conflict on the Ussuri River in 1969 were still valid.

Soviet sources in Beijing could not confirm that the trade talks were broken off. However, they said that the value of trade exchange in both directions last year amounted to some $320 million and that the Chinese side this time also asked for, in addition to generators and equipment for hydroelectric powerplants, MI-6 and MI-8 helicopters which can be used, as was said, for everything from geological research to destroying tanks.

The requested number of helicopters was not given, but the assumption was expressed that the Soviet restraint in the bargaining was motivated by questions of why certain equipment primarily helicopters, should be provided after the Chinese intervention in Vietnam. Sources close to the Soviet Embassy in Beijing could not comment on the Chinese view that Vietnam, following its invasion of Kampuchea, was without any strategic fuel reserves, but they left the impression that this fact, if it is proved correct, had to be known to the Soviet leadership.

Chinese Explanations of Lao Accusations

In the meantime, Lao accusations have been voiced--after similar claims were expressed in Moscow and Hanoi--that China is concentrating its troops on the border with Laos, that the relations between the two countries "are deteriorating from day to day" and that the responsibility for this lies "exclusively on the Chinese side."

In response to this, a Chinese official said that "Laos was following Vietnam's policy toward the Overseas Chinese and that it was also expelling them" (a rather important additional element in the Chinese assessment of Vietnam's attitude which, while respecting world public opinion concerning Kampuchea, has been predominantly made until now within the framework of bilateral relations supplemented now by "punishment" and "lesson" for everything else), but that China understood the Lao position. This well-informed Chinese personality claimed that Laos has, both in the government and in the Central Committee, Vietnamese "advisers" in addition to three to four Vietnamese divisions, which considerably surpasses the Lao Army in size.

However, the border between China and Laos, despite the claims about a massing of Chinese troops and the "sending of spies," or an alleged instigation of minorities in the mountains of Laos, is completely peaceful, the Chinese official said.

The situation obviously continues to remain rather complex, despite the additional Chinese assurances that Vietnam cannot wage a war without fuel. This Chinese claim, although it might fully true be and correctly calculated, has a weak point: The Chinese claimed that Vietnam was threatening and provoking them and reaching after their territory, and thus the logical question arises how someone, who knows that he has insufficient fuel--and knows that his opponent knows this--can undertake an offensive action.

YUGOSLAV-MONGOLIAN TRADE TALKS BEGIN 13 MARCH IN BELGRADE

LD131608 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1109 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Belgrade--Yugoslav-Mongolian talks on the conclusion of a 1979 trade protocol began today in the Federal Secretariat of Foreign Trade. The head of the Yugoslav delegation at these talks is Filip Babic, assistant federal secretary of foreign trade. Y. Ayussh, deputy minister of foreign trade, leads the Mongolian delegation.

DJURANOVIC REPORTS TO TITO ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LD131458 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1330 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Belgrade--This morning President of the Republic Josip Broz Tito received Veselin Djuranovic, president of the Federal Executive Council, who informed him of the current questions of our economic development and of economic relations between our country and foreign countries.

President Tito showed great interest in the implementation of the agreed policy of economic stabilization, particularly with the results of the efforts made to reduce expenditures to within income limits in connection with investments, price policy and energy situation in the country and trade with foreign countries. The president of the republic stressed in particular the need to overcome more rapidly the economic isolationism of the republics and provinces and pointed out the great importance of realistically and thoroughly drafting the new medium-term plan of economic development.

FINANCE SECRETARY REVIEWS CADRE POLICY, STABILIZATION

AU061430 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 4 Mar 79 p 4 AU

[D.G. report on interview with Petar Kostic, member of the Federal Executive Council and federal secretary for finance--place and date not given]

[Excerpts] Knowledge is now basic capital. Knowledge is not sufficiently utilized in our country and is not properly valued, and in the "distribution according to work" there is still a large gap between ideology, which is unassailable and the best known in the world, and practice. Equalitarianism is constantly being regenerated, even in those communities where they talk about distribution according to the results of work. This does not benefit the utilization of knowledge as the basic capital and basic condition for development.

This was stated at the outset of an interview granted by Petar Kostic, member of the Federal Executive Council and federal secretary for finance, to journalists of VECERNJE NOVOSTI and BORBA. The subject of the interview was the current economic situation and the implementation of the current basic policy objective: stabilization with a high rate of growth.

The cadre policy often is conducted in such a way, Kostic points out, that the knowledge factor is not decisive in the selection of people. In the selection process for various offices we are inclined to attach more value to everything else and to talk least about the fact whether a candidate is capable of performing the work in question.

Quality of Business Operations

Speaking about the policy of economic stabilization, Petar Kostic stressed that the absence of valuable business operations in a number of spheres is the basic problem and the fundamental cause of instability. "When I say good quality of business operations," Kostic stressed, "I mean a synthesis of multiple components which have to be analyzed to the very essence. The nature of each of them has to be established separately and their mutual links discovered, and a subtle policy for improving them should be built on this basis."

Regarding the components that influence the poor quality of business operations, Kostic listed the lack of homogeneity of our economic structure in various aspects, the regional positioning of production capacities and long term reliance on imported raw materials and production materials. He said:

"All this is accompanied by autarky, an agent sharply reducing the high potential of our country. When I say this I mean the autarky of the basic organizations, of associated labor, the work organization, an autarky which runs from the lowest to the highest sociopolitical communities."

The most important thing this year, the secretary for finance continued, is to reduce the trend of inflation. Any bargaining over whether a price increase should be 11 percent or 12 percent is not the main question of policy, although every percentage point is essential and must not be neglected. The most important point, however, is whether we will be able to reduce the rate of inflation in comparison with last year.

TANJUG REPORTS VISIT TO BELGRADE BY RCP'S CAZACU

LD131912 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1802 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Belgrade, March 13, (TANJUG)--Member of the Political Executive Committee and secretary of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee Virgil Cazacu is in Belgrade today as guest of the LCY Central Committee Presidency.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO CAMEROON--Belgrade--By presidential decree Hamdija Fetahovic, until now a member of the Secretariat of the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Montenegro, has been appointed new extraordinary and plenipotentiary SFRY ambassador to the United Republic of Cameroon with offices in Yaounde. [Text] [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0852 GMT 7 Mar 79 LD]

NEW CYPRUS AMBASSADOR--Belgrade--Fadilj Hodza, vice president of the SFRY Presidency, today received the new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cyprus to the SFRY, Andis Sotiriadhis, who presented his credentials. Ambassador Sotiriadhis transmitted President Spiros Kiprianou's greetings and best wishes for President Tito and the peoples of Yugoslavia. [Excerpts] [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1242 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD]

SOMALI AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE--Belgrade--Fadilj Hodza, vice president of the SFRY presidency, has received in a farewell visit the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Somalia to the SFRY, Salah Mohammed Ali, prior to his departure from our country. [Excerpt] [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1349 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD]

NEW FEDERAL COUNCIL SECRETARY--The Federal Council for International Relations has decided to appoint Miroslav Kreacic, heretofore ambassador to Japan, as secretary of the council. Nikola Mandic, present secretary of the council, will retain his position as head of the Foreign Political Service of Yugoslavia's Presidency. [Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 22 Feb 79 AU]

YUGOSLAV-HUNGARIAN COOPERATION--Budapest, March 7, (TANJUG)--An agreement was signed here today between major Yugoslav and Hungarian chemical industry producers. The new arrangement will annually increase the value of Yugoslav-Hungarian trade by an additional 20 million dollars. Under the agreement, the Hibarian chemical industry plants of Bordos and Peti will deliver liquid amoniac to the Yugoslav "Bor" mining-smelting complex and "Zorka" chemical industry plant which will use the raw material in the production of a complex fertilizer. [Word indistinct] of the fertilizer production will go to Hungary. The overall value of the six-year joint venture is 120 million dollars. [Text] [Belgrade TANJUG in English 0947 GMT 7 Mar 79 LD]

YUGOSLAVIA-ALBANIA UNIVERSITY COOPERATION--Titograd, March 9, (TANJUG)--A delegation of the "Veljko Vlahovic" University of Titograd, capital of the Yugoslav Constituent Republic of Montenegro, paid a five-day visit to Albania. The delegation, headed by Dr Miljan Radovic, rector of Titograd University, signed a protocol with the representatives of Tirana University on educational and scientific cooperation in the coming school year. The protocol provides for an extensive programme of exchanging lectures, textbooks, scientific and literary works, education programmes and other forms of cooperation in this field. [Text] [Belgrade TANJUG in English 2101 GMT 9 Mar 79 LD]

PARTICIPATION IN AFRICAN FUND--Belgrade, March 9, (TANJUG)--With a view to promoting and encouraging cooperation with the developing countries, Yugoslavia will, in the next two years, increase its participation in the African Development Fund by some 125 million dinars. Yugoslavia is a founding member of the African Development Fund, established in 1972. For the planned extent of its projects, the African fund will need some 777 million U.S. dollars in additional resources in the next five years. The fund members have expressed their readiness to secure some 713 million U.S. dollars in the second general contribution of resources. Firms and organizations from member countries of the African Development Fund and the African Development Bank alone have the right to participate in the bidding for projects financed by the African Development Fund. By 1977, the fund committed 362 million U.S. dollars in 82 loans for projects and studies in 27 African developing countries. [Text] [Belgrade TANJUG in English 1146 GMT 9 Mar 79 LD]

NUCLEAR POWER PLANT CONSTRUCTION--Zadar--The Executive Council of the Zadar Municipal Assembly today discussed the report of the municipal working group on the research work carried out in connection with the construction of a nuclear power plant on the island of Vir not far from Zadar. The question was again raised today whether it was advisable to build nuclear power plants in areas where tourism is highly developed. The decision of the session was that the construction would have a negative effect on the development of a part of existing economic installations and the question would therefore arise what these installations should be replaced by. Deputies of the Zadar Municipal Assembly will discuss the location of the nuclear power plant on the island of Vir on 19 March. [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1355 GMT 6 Mar 79 LD]

TUZLA DEFENSE UNITS--Tuzla--A gathering of about 1,400 League of Communist members from Tuzla territorial defense units was held in Tuzla today. Smiljka Milojevic, secretary of the municipal committee, spoke about topical questions relating to the realization of the concept of all-people's defense and social self-protection. A discussion followed in which numerous examples were given of the very successful realization of the concept of all-people's defense and social self-protection in the large municipality of Tuzla. The commune of Tuzla, it was said, sets a good example in this respect and has been given many awards for the results achieved hitherto in this sphere. [Text] [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1247 GMT 10 Mar 79 LD]